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7 JANUARY 1987

Southeast Asia Report



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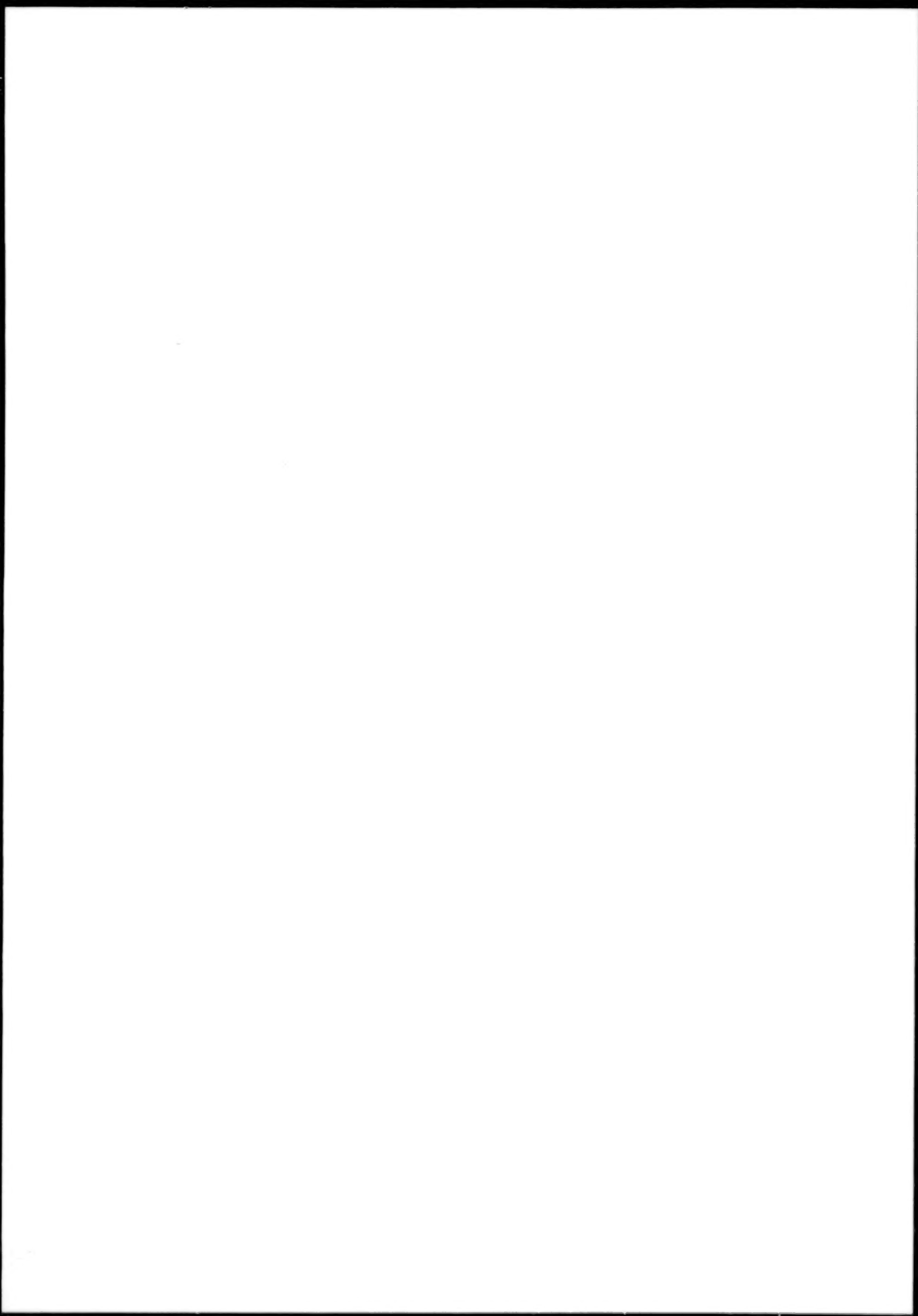
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AQUINO TO CAMPAIGN FOR CHARTER IN SIX REGIONS

HK110203 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] President Aquino will campaign for ratification of the draft constitution in at least six regions of the country, while Constitutional Commission (Con-Com) members will fan out to their home areas for an intensive information drive in the next few weeks until the Feb. 2 plebiscite.

This was disclosed at a meeting of the Con-Com constitution education program committee yesterday presided by Con-Com President Cecilia Munoz Palma.

Assessing the education campaign, Christian S. Monsod, committee chairman, said the Con-Com members have conducted 800 trainers' workshops and forums all over the country. The discussions are intended to inform the people of the substantive provisions of the new Constitution so they can vote intelligently on Feb. 2.

Malacanang has notified the committee that Mrs. Aquino will visit the six regions right after the Christmas season to rally the people behind the new charter.

In the meeting with Con-Com members, Palma said there are reports that Marcos money is being used to fund the anti-constitution campaign of some political parties and groups headed by Marcos "Loyalist" leaders.

If these reports are true, Palma said, then the people should really be wary of the propaganda and disinformation drive being waged by KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] leaders and other groups working for their selfish interests.

"These groups are working against the interests of the Filipino people by turning against the new constitution just because they are against President Aquino," Palma said.

"Why should these political leaders fight this constitution which restores the balance and stability of the government structure, promotes and protects the rights of the people, and adopts the economic and social policies that will propel national development?" Palma asked.

A Con-Com source said an ousted KBL governor in the North has printed 30 million pamphlets urging the people to vote against the new charter. Money for the printing reportedly came from the Marcoses through a local bank after the text of the pamphlets was cleared with them in Honolulu, the source said.

Marcos money is already being distributed in Northern Luzon, including Pangasinan, Baguio City, and Laoag City, the source said. In Mindanao, an antigovernment group headed by a Marcos regime official is also being funded by the Hawaii exiles to oppose the ratification of the new constitution.

In the assessment meeting, Monsod said that by the end of December, more than 1,000 workshops and forums will have been completed by the commissioners.

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CS0: 4200/210

AQUINO FORMS BODY TO LIQUIDATE GOVERNMENT ASSETS

HK101443 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 11

[Article by J. Concepcion]

[Text] President Aquino announced yesterday the creation of a body that will take charge of disposing, through sale to interested investors of government-owned or controlled corporations and non-performing assets.

She made the announcement at the opening of a three-day international conference on "Philippine Opportunities for Entrepreneurs and Investors, 1986" attended by ambassadors from 11 countries, potential local and foreign investors, and investment bankers at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

The sale of government corporations and non-performing assets, according to the President, is both a necessary measure to alleviate the strain on the national budget and an imperative to national economic growth.

About P20 billion of this year's budget will be eaten up by government lending to government corporations to sustain their operations and finance their idle assets.

The Committee on Privatization (COP), created under an executive order signed last Monday by the President, is tasked with disposing of some P140 billion worth of government-owned or controlled corporations and non-performing assets.

The COP, which will have the final say on the pricing and the sale of government corporations and idle assets, will be composed by Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin, Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion Jr, Economic Planning Minister Solita C. Monsod, Budget Minister Alberto Romulo, and Chairman Luis Villafuerte of the Presidential Commission on Government Reorganization.

The COP will in turn create an asset privatization trust to take charge of the appraisal, pricing and negotiation for the sale of government firms.

Aquino renewed her challenge to private businessmen to help in the recovery of the economy, as she reiterated the government's commitment to free enterprise and to set up an environment "where there are no fears or favors; where some direct correlation is maintained between the growth and prosperity of a business and the amount of energy, pluck, intelligence and personal investments that are put into it."

The President also announced the possibility of more replacements of government officials "as we subject everything to continuing review."

She said four Cabinet ministers had been replaced "in a manner consistent with my policy of forbearance."

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CSO: 4200/210

PHILIPPINES

AQUINO EXPLAINS COUNTRY'S FREE ENTERPRISE POLICY

HK100243 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 9 Dec 86

[Text] President Aquino says the government's policy on free enterprise reflects the interests of the nation as a whole. Art Pabellon has more details:

[Begin recording] [Pabellon] President Corazon Aquino yesterday [9 December] said that her (?treatment) of free enterprise is tempered by the need to see to it that government policies do not reflect only the interests of the [words indistinct] but rather that of the nation as a whole. The president was the guest speaker at a conference on the government's privatization program at the PICC [Philippine International Convention Center]. She said the country is open to a variety of investment possibilities from shipbuilding to processed foods, from oil refining to hotels and tourist operations.

[Aquino recording indistinct]

[Pabellon] The president also said we welcome foreign investments in areas where local investments have proved [words indistinct]. But she said we enthusiastically encourage and prefer investment partnerships with our local capital because this is where [words indistinct] lie for long-term and healthy relationships between foreign enterprises and the domestic economy.

[Aquino] The true value of the (?answers) that we [words indistinct] are not in a balance sheet and the [words indistinct] of the corporations on sale. Rather, the true value is found in the hearts and minds of our people who have recovered the will to achieve and in a spirit of sacrifice that are essential to the success of any enterprise. [end recording]

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CSO: 4200/210

PHILIPPINES

PROPOSAL ON FOREIGN DEBT TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

HK091504 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Dec 86 p 2

[By Reporter Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The Philippines will stick to the original debt-restructuring proposal it submitted early last month to the New York-based advisory committee of foreign bank creditors when talks resume, a high-ranking monetary official told BUSINESS DAY.

"The principal negotiators are firm that the pricing and tenor of the debt restructuring will be maintained," the official quoted Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin as saying.

The Philippines has proposed a slightly more favorable pricing than what Mexico has obtained from its foreign commercial creditors and definitely does not intend to pay interest higher than Mexico's 0.813 percent over the London inter-bank offered rate (libor).

Asked from the banks are a 20-year payment period with a seven-year grace and an interest spread of 0.625 percent over libor.

What has not been firmed up, the official said, is inclusion in the awaited talks of a "growth facility" estimated at \$10.6 billion starting next year.

The growth facility includes a revitalization fund of about \$7 billion and a contingency facility of \$3.6 billion. It has been earlier proposed by Economic Planning Minister Solita C. Monsod.

The growth facility was taken up in the talks last month but the Philippine negotiating team headed by Ongpin and Central Bank Governor Jose B. Fernandez, Jr. agreed to withdraw it from the discussion after the banks reacted adversely to its [words indistinct] the talks.

The banks said they would be willing to discuss the proposal of the Philippines first obtained support of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Ongpin said over the weekend that the banks' advisory committee would meet on Thursday to take up the Philippine proposal.

He said he was optimistic that the committee would come up with a counter-proposal close enough to the Philippine request.

A counterproposal would be necessary before the Philippines could agree to resume talks, he added.

Some Western bankers, interviewed yesterday, believe that, unless the Philippines agrees to adjust its proposal, an agreement before yearend might be very difficult.

"Banks have indicated that they are willing to move but the government has also to show its sincerity by adjusting its proposal," a banker said.

The talks could drag on until the first quarter of next year, he said, but noted "everything remains unclear until after Thursday."

The concern of banks center on the impact of a concessionary agreement with the Philippines on other, future debt talks, particularly with such countries as Argentina and Brazil which will be held soon.

Any concessions given to the Philippines could set a precedent for other debtor countries, which is something the international banking community are not about to support, a Western banker said.

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CSO: 4200/210

SHORTER TERM FOR DEBT RESTRUCTURING SOUGHT

HK110239 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 10 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by reporter Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The Philippines may opt for a shorter-term restructuring of debts to foreign governments instead of a "multiyear" restructuring of credits falling due after this year, Central Bank governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. said yesterday.

"We are still opting for the narrow window with the Paris Club (the forum of developed countries for negotiating international debts) with a goodwill clause rather than the multiyear without the goodwill clause," Fernandez told reporters.

In a shorter-term arrangement, the Philippines can negotiate for an 18-month restructuring of official credits falling due during the period and be given an option (in a goodwill clause) of going back to the Paris Club to negotiate on other debts falling due after that period.

Earlier, the government was considering matching with the Paris Club the terms of a multiyear restructuring agreement proposed to foreign commercial banks.

Fernandez said the government was still computing the amount that would be involved in the restructuring talks with the creditor governments over the next few years. The existing restructuring accord for official credit covers \$1.1-billion official debt payments due from 1983 to end-1986.

Fernandez said negotiations on a restructuring of official debts due after 1986 have been reset for next month but no definite date has been set.

He said a meeting of the "consultative group" of creditor governments and multi-lateral financial institutions led by the World Bank would precede the Paris Club meeting next month.

On the stalled negotiations with the advisory committee of foreign commercial banks, Fernandez said the Philippines has not changed its proposal on how debts to the banks should be restructured.

"What we want, we have said," he declared.

Fernandez said the meeting of the advisory committee this Thursday in New York would be a positive indication that the banks may adjust their position on the country's debt.

"I think there is a movement, because there is a meeting, he said. He added that he had an idea of what the banks' new proposal would be, but declined to say it.

On negotiations with the World Bank on a \$300-million economic recovery loan, Fernandez said Philippine officials were "negotiating hard," but he declined to speculate on whether the loan may be approved this year.

In addition to two "prior actions" required by the World Bank--on privatization of the government assets and withdrawal of tax exemptions to government corporations--a few other points were still being threshed out before the loan can be approved, he said.

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PAPER SUMS UP MINISTRIES' PERFORMANCES

HK090655 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Dec 86 p 7

[Text] Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Economic diplomacy is the thrust of the country's foreign affairs policy. Translated in simple terms, it means "trade not aid."

The ministry has conducted a survey of Philippine products in great demand abroad to help the country's exporters and industrialists set up trade opportunities and generate revenue for the national economy.

The Government, through its foreign ministry, has also expressed solidarity with Third World countries and members of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as adopted a policy of strengthening ties with socialist countries without necessarily abandoning old friends like the U.S.

Ministry of Finance

A "growth-oriented economy" financed by a budget deficit of P27.9 billion was expected to create jobs and so boost the people's buying power, particularly in the country's side. Credit was eased to allow businessmen to borrow cheaper funds for increased production.

These aims, as spelled out by Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin, have hardly been met. Businessmen, foreign and local, feel that the political situation is still too risky. The ratification of the draft Constitution, it is hoped, will somehow clear the way for new investments.

Ministry of Local Governments

Dismantling the Marcos grassroots political machinery should be the most notable accomplishment of former Local Governments Minister Aquilino Pimentel Jr. But it also proved to be his undoing as many of those he named officers-in-charge [OIC] of local government units were no better than the governors and mayors they replaced.

New Local Governments Minister Jaime Ferrer has decided to let the elections next year decide the OIC controversy. Meantime, he will have his hands full tackling double OIC appointments in several provinces, cities and towns.

Ministry of Agrarian Reform

Perhaps the most significant accomplishment of the Agrarian Reform Ministry is its "deepened awareness" of the problems of farm workers and small farmers.

Agrarian Reform Minister Heherson Alvarez reported that 8,000 emancipation patents have been issued to farmers in the last 10 months. The Marcos regime had given only 14,000 such patents in 14 years. He said the ministry has resolved more than 900 land claims cases, compared to the 400 cases the ministry resolved annually during the Marcos regime.

Ministry of Transportation and Communications

The train service to Bicol is considered one of the most important accomplishments of the Minister Hernando Perez of Transportation and Communications. Despite tight finances, the Philippine National Railway Service to the south has improved with the new "Penafrancia Run," which has reduced travel time to Bicol by half.

The rehabilitation of train coaches, tracks and signalling equipment reflected an increase in passengers by 25 per cent and an increase in revenues by 45 per cent.

Ministry of Tourism

The Aquino Government registered a 10.17 per cent increase in tourist arrivals in the nine months it has been in power.

Despite apprehensions over the country's perceived political instability, there has been a steady increase in arrivals of Japanese tourists.

Tourism Minister Jose Antonio Gonzalez' series of promo blitzes abroad could explain the tourist inflow.

Domestic tourism has also been a concern of the ministry which has instructed its regional offices to spruce up old churches, beaches, and other tourist spots.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's declaration that the MIA ranks as one of the safest international airports, according to Gonzalez, has encouraged tourist arrivals. The MIA, he said, used to "be his nightmare."

Ministry of Trade and Industry

"Never before has the Ministry of Trade and Industry consulted with the private sector on so many issues in the past eight months," said Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion Jr. in a recent speech before businessmen. He was in fact merely reiterating the Government's policy of giving industry back to the private sector.

This move is the exact opposite of the direction the deposed Marcos government was taking when industry was being swallowed up in huge chunks by the state corporations. Concepcion hopes that with a revitalized private sector, the economy will soon really get off the ground.

Ministry of Justice

If Neptali Gonzales talks too much, it's because he can't help it. Being justice minister, he's had his hands full tackling the most sensitive and popular issues of the day.

First, he reopened the Aquino-Galman murder case which his ministry will prosecute. Then there was the judiciary revamp. Now, the Olalia murder case.

In all these cases, Gonzalez cannot help but keep a high profile, sometimes even to the point of saying something just because reporters want him to say something, as one reporter has noted.

Ministry of National Defense

The ministry has been undergoing reorganization and redirection since Minister Rafael M. Ilete assumed his post on Nov. 23. Ilete has been carefully but decisively mending the cleavages within the military ranks and putting the Armed Forces back to a supportive and subordinate role to the Government.

The ministry under Ilete has explicitly supported President Aquino's peaceful approach to end the country's 17-year-old insurgency problem, paving the way for the 60-day cease-fire agreement that will start on Wednesday.

Ilete said he would use the military to demonstrate the Government's goodwill by initiating an aggressive civic action program.

Ministry of Natural Resources

Whether or not the log export ban his predecessor, Ernesto Maceda, had imposed has been successful is what new Natural Resources Minister Carlos Dominguez will soon find out.

Maceda was said to have been firm in banning the export of raw logs. Three ministers who have headed the ministry had all planned to completely ban log exports. None succeeded because the violators were close to the deposed Marcos regime.

The country's forest resources have been [word indistinct] so rapidly that ecologists say that at the current rate of destruction, there will be no more forests to speak of in 10 years.

Ministry of Labor and Employment

Perhaps the best thing the Labor Ministry has done since March is to open its doors to the workers. Labor Minister Augusto S. Sanchez' "pro-labor" image has done much to win back the confidence of workers, which was lost during the Marcos regime.

Sanchez himself often handled disputes that involved even small unions and companies. Workers who saw him said it was the first time they'd even set foot on a labor minister's office.

But Sanchez also proved to employers that he could deal with labor firmly, as when he declared the strikes at Alliance Textiles, Inc. and California Bus Lines illegal and sacked a total of 35 workers in the two firms.

Ministry of Health

The passing of a milk code to encourage breastfeeding is the most important achievement so far of the Health Ministry. This code enables the Government to control the marketing and advertising of breast milk substitutes.

The ministry has also begun a nationwide testing and monitoring sectors most likely to acquire AIDS (acquired immuno deficiency syndrome). It has also cracked down on the sale of fake, adulterated and misbranded drugs as a result of which 39 drugstores have been closed permanently.

Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports

Whatever Education Minister Lourdes Quisumbing is doing now is directed towards improving the quality of education and making it more relevant.

To achieve these, she has streamlined the ministry to trim costs and improve efficiency. She has appointed officials based on merit and performance.

The ministry hopes to strengthen high school education by implementing a new curriculum. It also expects to solve the problem of lack of school equipment by encouraging vocation schools to make desks, tables, blackboards and other classroom facilities.

Presidential Commission on Human Rights

The Presidential Commission on Human Rights' (PCHR) most important accomplishment so far is the establishment of a regional unit in Davao City. Another will soon be set up in Tacloban City.

The Davao unit aims to provide immediate relief to victims of human rights violations in the provinces and remote areas of the country. This move had long been recommended by local human rights groups who made it known to the PCHR that most victims of alleged military atrocities are unable to file their complaints simply because the PCHR is not within their reach. The victims, most of whom are farmers or peasants, either do not have financial means to come to Manila or are afraid to leave their homes and air their grievances to higher authorities for fear of military reprisal. The PCHR hopes that the regional unit, which may be duplicated in other regions in the future, will not only help the PCHR gather more cases or monitor cases of human rights violations nationwide, but also prevent the commission of abuses.

National Science and Technology Authority [NSTA]

In July, Science Minister Antonio Arizabal announced that the National Science and Technology Authority would concentrate on national recovery "within existing capacity." He said that the NSTA's development thrust would be geared towards the countryside and added that he did not oppose the transfer of technology from multinational companies.

Since then there have been no new and significant policy announcements from the NSTA.

Ministry of Social Services [MSSD]

Since her appointment, Social Services Minister Mita Pardo de Tavera has worked to bring her agency closer to the people. To this end, she has visited MSSD offices nationwide, something her predecessor failed to do. To cut costs, Pardo de Tavera sometimes by herself going to the extent of catching early morning flights because of the ticket discounts. [sentence as published]

The MSSD has strengthened its service programs, particularly towards children, mothers and former detainees. It has assumed responsibility for the national child immunization program and devised livelihood programs for women.

Presidential Commission on Good Government

Going by the amount it has recovered, the Presidential Commission on Good Government has not accomplished much. For instance, as of last Aug. 12, only P1.7 billion in sequestered cash and treasury bills has been turned over by the PCGG to the cash-starved government.

Still under litigation are the billions of pesos and dollars in cash and other assets here and abroad believed to be owned by deposed President Marcos. The only consolidation here is that the Marcoses themselves cannot touch the money.

Ministry of General Services

This ministry, which is in charge of conserving or disposing of all government-owned physical assets, has already sold 23 Lear jets through public bidding.

Minister Victor S. Ziga has also announced the disposal of another 11 jets seized shortly after the February Revolution, aside from the 'BRP Ang Pangulo,' the luxurious presidential yacht used by deposed President Marcos.

Office of Budget and Management

The newly approved P128.8-billion national budget shows that the people's welfare tops the Aquino Government's list of priorities.

Social services, including education, health and social services and development, got 22.4 per cent of the budget. Education in particular received P15 billion, overtaking Defense, Marcos' top priority, which was allocated P8.5 billion.

While the biggest chunk, or 40 per cent, will go to pay the country's foreign debts, the budget should be enough to support the country's projected growth rate this year of 6.5 per cent, said Budget Minister Alberto Romulo.

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CS0: 4200/210

MANILA DAILY ASSESSES CABINET 'BALANCING ACT'

HK090135 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Dec 86 p 6

[Article by Sheila S. Coronel]

[Text] From the beginning, it was an unwieldy Cabinet: 25 men and women one would not ordinarily think of putting in a single room together.

But though they came from diverse backgrounds and promoted often antagonistic interests, the members of the Aquino Cabinet represented the broad spectrum of sectors and groups that toppled the Marcos dictatorship and installed the present government in power.

That they managed, somehow, to work and stay together at all for nine months was already, in the words of Minister Aquilino Pimentel, Jr., "a minor miracle."

But there has always been a tendency to explain the birth and continued survival of this government in terms of miracles--both major and minor.

In political and nonmiraculous terms, however, the government survives through a delicate balancing of the diverse and conflicting interests interplaying in Philippine society.

In other words, it is not a magician at work but an acrobat juggling powerful lobbies in the air without letting any of them drop.

The ongoing Cabinet revamp is an example of this, though it is, concededly, a slow-motion acrobatic act.

The cabinet of Corazon Aquino was, and still is, as eclectic as the forces that brought her to power, united not by a common ideology or political platform as most other cabinets are, but by an anti-Marcos alliance finally forged in four days of February.

By November, a very vocal segment of that alliance represented by former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, whose defection catalyzed the February uprising, was removed from the cabinet after, it is believed, he plotted and failed, to overthrow the government he helped put in power.

On Nov. 23, the day after the failed coup, Enrile was replaced by his deputy, former diplomat and retired general Rafael Ileto, whose perceptions on the military's role are more akin to those of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos.

Ramos played a key part in defusing the takeover attempt. With him at the helm of the Armed Forces and Ileto as defense minister, it is believed that a more homogeneous, and less overtly political, military leadership has emerged.

The week after Enrile's removal, two other cabinet ministers were replaced: Natural Resources Minister Ernesto Maceda and Highways Minister Rogaciano Mercado. Both men have been charged with corruption and though these charges have yet to be proven in court, President Aquino stressed, in replacing them, the importance of "popular perception."

Banker and corporate executive Vicente Jayme replaced Maceda while agribusiness technocrat and Deputy Agriculture Minister Carlos Dominguez took Mercado's place. Both are believed to be the recommendations of a powerful lobby in Malacanang composed of technocrats in and out of government and a Jesuit priest, all of whom have been Mrs. Aquino's advisers since she ventured into politics after her husband's death.

Palace sources said that it was this lobby which agitated for a thorough Cabinet revamp, arguing for a more "even-handed" approach, on the same day that the President decided to fire Enrile.

This same group is lobbying intensely for a greater technocratic presence in the Cabinet, citing the inefficiency and incompetence that they claim have marked the workings of the highest echelons of Government, including the presidency.

The idea of backstopping Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo with four or five other assistants to relieve him of the administrative burden which, it is perceived, he is not carrying well, was also this group's idea.

Some commentators have referred to this lobby as the "Council of Trent," while a particularly piqued Palace official prefers to pun it as "council of threat."

The council's ideology is basically conservative, its stress is on technocratic competence, its world-view, that of the corporate boardroom.

The Technocrat lobby is often pitted against what another Malacanang official calls the "Sir Galahads of human rights."

Former human rights lawyers with little administrative experience, they serve in the Cabinet and are among the President's closest advisers. On contrast, their politics is liberal, their world view, that of an adversarial trial court and the parliament of the streets. Quite naturally, they have an uneasy relationship with the same Armed Forces against whom they fought during the Marcos years.

Since the tumult of last month, the presidency has become more keenly aware of the significance of the military lobby. For many months, military officers close to Enrile have agitated for the replacement of the President's so-called "left leaning" ministers, specially her executive secretary.

In fact, one coup scenario that was drawn up included the elimination of these ministers while the President herself was to be retained as a sort of figurehead.

In defusing the attempted power seizures last month, Ramos consented to present to the President, in behalf of the restive officers, a set of recommendations which included measures against the insurgency as well as a Cabinet revamp.

In a press statement on Nov. 21, after he met with the President, the chief of staff acknowledged that the Armed Forces had recommended "the immediate replacement of Cabinet officials who have not performed adequately, especially in putting into operation in the field the mechanisms for efficient Government performance."

Though Ramos did not name these Cabinet officials, it was generally believed, and was privately admitted by military officers, that they included not only ministers with corruption charges but also those whose politics did not sit well with the Armed Forces.

"The pressure from the military started to build up in the last month," said Pimentel, "but since the lobbying for my ouster was articulated by the top brass, starting with Enrile and subsequently, General Ramos, it was a pretty strong thing."

"It also stands to reason," he added, "that the participation of the military in hastening the collapse of the dictatorship means that no one can ignore the pressure from the military at this point."

A Palace official, however, said "the president listens to the military but she's not going to allow herself to be held captive by them."

In the end, however, the president chose to balance off these conflicting lobbies.

She fired her supposedly corrupt ministers and replaced them with technocrats acceptable to a fairly broad spectrum of groups. She replaced Pimentel, who has drawn the ire not only of the military and Malacanang's technocrat advisers, but also of the other political parties that make up her ruling coalition.

Pimentel was perceived to have favored his own party, PDP-LABAN, in appointments to local government posts. But the president retained him in her cabinet, though in a somewhat decorative post, as adviser on national affairs, in what seemed to be a compromise acceptable to both PDP and the human rights lobby which resisted his ouster.

At the same time, Pimentel's successor, Jaime Ferrer, was handpicked by the PDP, thus ensuring that the dominant party of the administration keeps a hold on local government positions that will be crucial both in the coming plebiscite and national and local elections.

Ferrer's politics, too, which are on the conservative side of the spectrum, should appease the military which is not too happy with Pimentel's retention.

"The president is conscious of the interplay of political forces," said Pimentel. "The mere fact that I am still in the cabinet is an indication that not one sector is too dominant."

At this point, the president is still unable to make probably her most excruciating decision related to the revamp the replacement of labor minister Augusto Sanchez.

Almost since his appointment, Sanchez had come under fire from local employers' groups as well as American big business for his pro-labor views and policies, particularly his controversial position on multinational corporations and profit-sharing.

On the other hand, the labor minister is popular among militant labor groups that are now threatening massive protest actions should he be fired.

At the same time, the pressure is intense from the technocrat lobby which is agitating for Sanchez' removal and his replacement by a less political and more technocratically-inclined labor minister. Sanchez is also not well liked by the military.

The president's apparent indecision on Sanchez' fate is caused by the lack of a replacement which will be acceptable to all groups. Thus, the process of consultation continues, for she remains, in essence, a populist president.

"What seems to be emerging," explained Pimentel, "is that she is trying to placate certain interests, but at the same time asserting her prerogative of what is good for the country after consultation with the people."

The same approach seems to apply to the controversial executive secretary. The decision seems to be to retain him in his post but remove from him the bulk of his administrative load.

This could mean a diminution in Arroyo's power and influence although a palace official said otherwise. "It does not mean that his receded," the official said, "but things have worked at such a pace that the art of government requires a rationale in terms of efficiency."

In all, [words indistinct] of the Aquino Cabinet has not essentially changed. It remains an electric mix although with Enrile's removal, a [word indistinct] voice has been eliminated, making the Cabinet an easier instrument to wield.

Enrile's ouster, however, does not mean that the military's voice has become weaker. On the contrary, there are indications that it has emerged a stronger, more unified lobby with a more homogeneous leadership.

There seems to be a shift, though, in terms of preferences for killed technocrats, whose number and role in the cabinet have been and will likely be significantly expanded, especially in comparison with the politicians. It is still too early to tell, however, whether there has been a corresponding diminution in the role of the human rights lobby.

For while there is a recognized need for men and women with administrative skill and experience, the president also seems to instinctively feel the need as well to balance them off with people more attuned to the popular pulse and endowed with a genuine concern for social equity and a strong social conscience.

In this sense, the choice of a labor minister is a crucial one, for the president cannot remain totally neutral in a ministry encompassing sectors as antagonistic as labor and management. Rather, the choice she makes will tilt the balance either way.

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CSO: 4200/210

MALAYA SAYS REVAMP AIMED AT WOOING FOREIGNERS

HK011441 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 1 Dec 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Toadying to Investors"]

[Text] President Aquino is reported to be taking some time announcing the Cabinet men she intends to include in her purge because she is having difficulty deciding whom to appoint as replacement.

It is said Mrs Aquino wants to make sure the new ministers she appoints will be above suspicion and criticism, who will give substance to her vow to lead a "fresh start" for her 9-month-old government.

In choosing her first set of ministers, the President was influenced by her desire to pay political debts. Now, after nine months in office a new perception of the presidency is emerging, and there is an apparent indication that perception has become part of her criteria in picking her new ministers.

Presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno was quoted as saying the other day that newly appointed Natural Resources Minister Carlos Dominguez, whom he described as very qualified for his new post, had impressed Japanese businessmen, whose support Mrs Aquino has patiently wooed with a series of incentives topped by a four-day state visit to Japan this month.

On the other hand, newly appointed Public Works Minister Vicente Jayme was supported to come well-recommended by virtue of his impressive performance as former head of the Private Development Corporation of the Philippines, which, as most everyone knows, is one of the main conduits for funding by international lending agencies and multinational investors.

It would seem then that a capacity to impress--and eventually lure--foreign investors is now the magic criterion in the choice of the new ministers. The ability to work out solutions to the difficulties which the masses of our people are facing--this can take a back seat in favor of the talent to entice foreign investors into putting their eggs in the Philippine basket.

This new perception of the presidency in selecting new ministers will inevitably be shown up if and when she finally decides to give in to pressures to drop ministers who are not exactly the favorites of multinationals and their local agents and to replace them with those who have a soft spot for foreign capital.

Is this the "fresh start" President Aquino talked about when she announced the start of her cabinet revamp?

PNB LAUDS FIRING OF TWO CABINET MINISTERS

HK021212 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 2 Dec 86 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Partido ng Bayan [People's Party] (PNB) has asked President Aquino to undertake a thorough purge of government to "rid her government of fascist and corrupt elements."

At the same time, the PNB lauded the firing of two Cabinet ministers and congratulated her for "the sharpness, decisiveness and courage with which she acted to rid her government of the most fascist and corrupt elements."

Nevertheless, the party also cautioned the President not to make "concessions to fascist, traditional politicians and other right-wingers by firing two of her more progressive ministers--Labor Minister Augusto "Bobbie" Sanchez and Local Government Minister Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel.

The PNB said Minister Sanchez's pro-labor stance should not be "made the scapegoat for the insufficient flow of foreign investments into the country."

The PNB secretary general reminded President Aquino that "only one who is really pro-labor can be the best man for the job of running a Ministry of Labor. Otherwise, we will again have a Ministry of Labor that keeps on selling down the struggle of the workers."

Earlier, the President herself had stressed that Sanchez "is the best man for the job" in dousing cold water on criticisms aired by leading businessmen in the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and employers belonging to the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP).

Pimentel, on the other hand, has been under fire for the controversies in the appointment of officers-in-charge (OICs) all over the country.

The PNB stressed that while there may have been some mistakes in OIC appointments, the controversy is nevertheless "a subject of political 'sour-grapes' than otherwise. There will, of course, always be more sour grapes who will be displeased and agitated with every OIC appointment, wise or otherwise."

The PNB leaders said "it is quite unfair to heap on Minister Pimentel all or the principal blame for the OIC controversy and make him a scapegoat for the mere satisfaction of all political sour-grapes."

The PNB urges Aquino to "first consult with the sectors concerned and with the masses before giving in to pressures from a few right-wingers."

BULLETIN CALLS FOR 'INDEPENDENT' LABOR MINISTER

HK081450 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Dec 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Choosing the Right Labor Minister"]

[Text] The difficulty in choosing a new labor minister is apparent in the fact that while the president has accepted the resignation of Minister Augusto Sanchez no replacement has been named. The difficulty in choosing a new minister of labor may lie in the fact that there are many pressure groups interested in the position and the president would like to please everybody as much as possible.

Labor itself is not as solid as it appears to the common observer. There are a number of labor federations and each seems to have its own candidate for minister. That organized labor is divided on who should be the minister follows from the fact that there is rivalry among the big labor groups. This rivalry stems partly from ideology and partly from the continuing struggle to gain members.

Then, of course, there is the management group which has its own candidate or candidates. For employers, it is advantageous to have as labor minister somebody who used to belong to their group, because the minister has considerable influence in the settlement of labor disputes.

Considering these various pressure groups and the types of controversies that are brought before the Ministry of Labor, the obvious formula is to appoint an independent who is knowledgeable in labor. A labor minister who is identified with organized labor may not be successful because he will always be suspected of bias. And so is somebody who belongs to the employers' group.

Choosing a labor minister is like choosing the governor of the Central Bank [CB]. A private banker chosen as CB governor is always suspected of favoring the private bank from where he comes.

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CSO: 4200/210

GOVERNMENT URGED TO IMPROVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HK101531 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 10 Dec 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Still no Reason to Celebrate"]

[Text] Today, the world marks International Human Rights Day. It is the first time Filipinos mark this day under a new democratic regime. It cannot be a day for celebration, because the shadow of things that made life almost unbearable in the past is still very much around.

An unprecedented 60-day ceasefire agreement between government and the National Democratic Front is supposed to take effect today, to guarantee a stop to hostilities in the 17-year insurgency. Yet even up to this moment, fears run high that forces against this kind of peace are moving heaven and earth to sabotage it. Even if the kinds are ironed out before noon--when it is due to take effect--no Filipino is sure that lasting and just peace could be attained.

While this government has taken decisive steps to undo the country's ugly human rights record during the Marcos regime, it still has to tackle fearlessly the wayward elements who refuse to recognize that this is a new democratic era.

That some elements who have been tied up in the past with the Philippines' sordid rights record are the same ones who seem to be throwing a monkey wrench into efforts for a ceasefire and lasting peace is not surprising. A genuine peace based on justice could effectively stop the virtual civil war, and leave them with no pretext to carry out bombings, forced relocation of people, food blockades, and a host of other human rights violations.

It is much easier for them to take the shortcut to their kind of "peace and stability"--that is, outright annihilation of populations whose beliefs they consider dangerous.

The challenge, therefore, is for this government to follow through its initial show of goodwill and wisdom by taking the decisive steps to improve human rights conditions in the country. It can start by making its own independent decisions about how to deal with the rebels. It can also start facing fearlessly, and with an open mind, the issues that lie at the root of so much poverty, for freedom from want is after all a basic right. It can also give more support to its own Presidential Committee on Human Rights, to prove its sincerity in meting out justice to thousands of human rights victims under Marcos' rule.

That this government was more willing to ratify international accords on human rights than its predecessor is a good start. But there is still no reason to celebrate this day because the work has only begun.

PRIVATE POLL SHOWS WIDE SUPPORT FOR AQUINO

HK051255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1238 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Manila, Dec 5 (AFP)--Most Filipinos are satisfied with President Corazon Aquino's performance, believe she is keeping her promises and are willing to give the government time to solve the country's problems, a survey released here Friday said.

The poll, the latest of a series prepared by a private research group, showed that the percentage of those satisfied with Mrs Aquino's performance rose from 60 percent in May to 78 percent in October, while those dissatisfied remained at six to seven percent.

The poll was taken jointly by the Jesuit-run Ateneo de Manila University and the Social Weather Stations Inc. In October, before Mrs Aquino revamped her cabinet and signed a 60-day ceasefire agreement with communist insurgents.

Sixty-four percent of those surveyed said they were satisfied she was keeping promises made earlier and 86 percent said the country's problems were so severe that the government should be given more time to deal with them.

The survey also showed that 81 percent of the populace were against holding new presidential elections, which are being called for by the opposition.

In a rating of 28 high government officials, the survey showed that Armed Forces chief General Fidel Ramos was rated as the one with the most satisfactory performance.

Former Local Governments Minister Aquilino Pimentel, who was recently transferred to another cabinet post, was rated the most unsatisfactory.

Controversial former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, who Mrs Aquino sacked last month, was rated as the third most satisfactory official, behind Gen Ramos and Vice-President and Foreign Minister Salvador Laurel.

The survey also showed that while the majority of the population considered the communist and Moslem insurgencies the greatest threats to the government, a majority said negotiation with the rebels was a "just right" policy.

Fifty-four percent of the respondents agreed that the government should continue talks with the insurgents compared to 24 percent who disagreed.

Thirty-two percent did not agree that the government should use force if the negotiations fail, compared to 42 percent who agreed in using force.

Pollsters asked a proportionate sampling of the population for their opinions on political, economic and foreign policy issues.

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TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS EYEING POLITICAL ARENA

HK101600 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 8

[Article by Marlen Ronquillo]

[Text] Two top government officials have begun to draw up their political battle plans in anticipation of the ratification of the Constitution next year.

Government Reorganization Commission Minister Luis Villafuerte told colleagues in the Lakas ng Bansa, a movement which supports President Aquino, that he will resign late this month to be full-time governor of Camarines Sur, a concurrent post.

Sources say Deputy Foreign Minister Leticia Shahani is also quietly setting the stage for her entry into Ilocos politics, using vote-rich Pangasinan as a base.

"Villafuerte feels he could be of better use to the country and the government in his home province," the INQUIRER source said.

His commission has completed a broad reorganization plan which recommended the phaseout of several agencies, including Energy, Human Settlements and Information. The plan calls for a single agency for housing and the disposal of nonperforming government agencies and corporations.

The reorganization plan has been submitted to the President and is under consideration.

Villafuerte, an investment banker before he entered government service, is expected to assume leadership of the potent but fractious bloc in the Bicol region. The bloc gave Ms. Aquino the biggest margin in the Feb. 7 election.

Shahani, the globetrotting diplomat, figured prominently in women's rights.

"It's a big challenge," she said in reply to a question on whether she is ready to assume political leadership of the Ilocos region, which she admits was left open with Marcos' flight to Hawaii.

"After only a few months work, she has some powerful political blocs around her. I think the Duques (of Pangasinan) are behind her now," said an INQUIRER source.

Gonzalo Duque was recently named vice governor of Pangasinan in a mass purge of local OICs [officers-in-charge] which include former Gov. Demetrio Demetria, a Shahani arch-rival, and all 34 OIC mayors aligned with Demetria.

Pangasinan's 46 municipalities have more than one million voters, and sources from the UNIDO [United Nationalist Democratic Organizations] and PDP-LABAN [Pilipino Democratic Party-lakas ng bayan] said Shahani would make a potent senatorial candidate. She is also the sister of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos.

At the launching of the Lakas ng Bansa in Pangasinan last month, Shahani was warmly acknowledged with cheers from an appreciative crowd.

In Villafuerte's Bicol, the leaders of the ruling political coalition are locked in bitter partisan squabbles.

In Albay, the Liberal Party is split into two groups--one headed by General Services Minister Victor Ziga and another led by former MP Peddro Marcellana.

Villafuerte's own political group in Camarines Sur is fighting with another bloc led by Deputy Local Government Minister Ciriaco Alfelor.

In Sorsogon, the bloc led by PDP-LABAN provincial chairman Elizalde Diaz is at odds with the group led by former Gov. Juan Frivaldo.

The PDP-LABAN and UNIDO are fighting for political leadership in Catanduanes.

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SISON ALLEGES U.S. MANIPULATION OF AQUINO GOVERNMENT

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 Dec 86 p 4

[Article by Peter McGill]

[Text] **T**HE objective of the United States is to promote sugar-coated fascism in the Philippines," Jose Maria Sison explains with his usual bluntness. "Mrs Aquino is being used as the sugar-coating."

In the course of a two-hour interview, the intellectual eminence grise of the Philippines Left and founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) typically turned most of the commonly held assumptions about Philippines politics on their head.

Juan Ponce Enrile, the dismissed defence minister accused of masterminding a foiled coup against President Corason ("Cory") Aquino, was being used by the US in a comprehensive way to extract concessions from Mrs Aquino which moved her to the Right, Mr Sison claims.

Chief-of-staff General Fidel Ramos, who "exposed and prevented" the coup by Mr Enrile and has emerged as Mrs Aquino's protector, is just a product of a media build-up, Mr Sison adds. "The most abusive military service, the one most involved in the atrocious, has been the Provincial Constabulary" which Ramos headed under deposed dictator Ferdinand Marcos. "Ramos should be accountable for those abuses and atrocities."

Former general Rafael Ileto, the new defence minister, founded the elite counter-insurgency Scout Rangers under Mr Marcos and Mr Ramos was one of his first students. Mr Ramos and Mr Ileto are both "very close," Mr Sison points out, both US-trained West Pointers, and both have brains filled with "verities" of anti-communism, both equate democracy with US domination of the Philippines and perpetuation of oppression and exploitation by landlords and compradors.

One of the central "myths" about Mrs Aquino that Mr Sison is keen to smash is that she has been "reining in" the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) from an attack on the 20,000-strong communist New People's Army (NPA).

In the countryside the attacks have been more severe since the fall of President Marcos, because of the nine to 10 battalions taken from the Presidential Security Command and redeployed in the provinces against the NPA, Mr Sison insists. "It's only in the urban areas there is this illusion of more freedom."

That illusion is already being shattered by "fascist terrorism" which has spread to the cities, such as the murder in Manila last month of Rolando Olalia, leader of the 10,000-strong militant labour Kilusang Mayor Uno (May First Movement) and the new Partido ng Bayan (People's Party), which Mr Sison helped found. Provincial Partido ng Bayan organisers have been murdered and harassed and Horacio Morales has also been "targeted," one reason Sison admits his "lecture tour" in Japan is being extended.

BEFORE the Olalia slaying, Mr Sison claims the US scheme was to put Mrs Aquino and Mr Enrile at the centre of the political stage, try to marginalise the Left and present the two as the only choices the people had. "Just like a Madison Avenue operation."

Mr Enrile saw himself as the rising star, who thought Mrs Aquino needed him as a counterforce to Mr Marcos while he agitated among the Armed Forces by saying they had to go along with him, otherwise something like what happened

in Argentina would overtake them — human rights cases would be brought up. (To date a commission appointed by Mrs Aquino to investigate military human rights abuses has yet to charge, prosecute or pardon any soldiers).

The USA used Mr Enrile, Mr Sison believes, to pressure Mrs Aquino into coming out in favour of an extension to the US Bases Agreement after 1993, to dump or render impotent her Left-leaning Cabinet Ministers and to take a firm stand against the communist insurgents.

Coincidental with Mr Enrile's apparent ousting has come the fulfilment, for the USA, of these aims in a military-civilian deal on the composition of the new Cabinet (significantly, Mr Sison adds, Mr Ramos also agreed with Mr Enrile several days before the latter's dismissal on the need to get rid of Leftist ministers).

THROUGH dwelling on this power struggle between the ultra-reactionary and less reactionary factions the "objective reality of the crisis growing worse and worse is missed," Mr Sison points out.

One example is land reform, where he says nothing has been done under Mrs Aquino: "When she finally went to Negros she said the owners will keep 60 percent of the land, but must be ready to lease 30 percent to agri-corporations, including foreign agri-corporations, and 10 percent will be sold to the farm workers and peasants, who are now starving."

Where will they get the money? Then the do-gooders of the ruling classes give "seed assistance" to the unemployed workers . . . Just seeds, not relief. So the starving peasants eat the seed, and the comedors call them lazy or stupid eating up whatever resources are given them.

In an attempt to deflect charges against himself for wealth amassed while he was Mr Marcos' defence minister, Mr Enrile publicly accused the Aquino Government of corruption, another example

Mr Sison seizes on to show that little has changed under Cory's "People's Government".

Natural Resources Minister Ernesto Maceda, one of the targets of the Cabinet reshuffle, appears involved in log smuggling, according to Mr Sison, while Cory's brother Jose "Peping" Cojuangco (the new head of the PDP-Laban party) has taken control over much of the gambling casinos in Luzon main island and of his Marcos-crony cousin Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco's abandoned estates in Negros and Mindanao. Manila's port services have been taken by Cory's first cousin, Mr Sison adds.

The legal Partido ng Bayan (100,000 members) and leftist-cause umbrella coalition Bayan (3 million) is part of a united front, Mr Sison implies, with the illegal CPP and NPA, under the communist National Democratic Front (NDF).

"These progressive forces take the line of pursuing the people's struggle for national liberation and democracy against US domination and domestic feudalism," he explains.

"The Communist Party takes that line, but it conducts the most potent form of revolutionary struggle, which is armed struggle." Unlike the "fractious ruling system" and "highly factionalized AFP", the front continues to grow in strength — Bayan is the largest political formation outside of the Government while the NPA netted at least 1500 automatic rifles from March to July, he boasts.

Mr Sison's forecast is that Mrs Aquino will probably survive for two to three years, until her Government will be "stinking from corruption" and the NPA has reached the stage of a strategic stalemate with the AFP.

"That will be the time when the military group will be able to say, this Government is very corrupt, leading the country to communism. That's how the military rides to power." □ — London Observer

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COLUMNIST DISPUTES AQUINO STATEMENT ON MARCOS OPPOSITION

HK041525 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 4 Dec 86 p 4

[Column by Luis R. Mauricio: "It Was a Long Tedious Struggle"]

[Text] In her speech before the Asian Development Bank Ladies' Club over the weekend, President Aquino stated, apart from her anecdote about how she bested Marcos in the February revolution and how she came to have the last word with the chauvinist males who appeared after him, that the struggle against the erstwhile dictator started after her husband, Ninoy Aquino, was assassinated at the Manila International Airport.

We beg the President's pardon.

We cannot let that statement remain undisputed, because to do so would be to accept, or to be a party to, a falsification of history.

It gives the wrong impression—although that might not have been intended by the President—that it was only in the latter part of 1983; when the upper middle-class (especially those from the posh "villages" of Makati), its collective conscience stricken with incredulity over the barbarity employed in the killing of Ninoy, started joining marches along Ayala Boulevard, that there arose a concerted action against the Marcos tyranny and oppression which reached its climax in the Edsa Epifanio de los Santos] revolution.

Not only does the President's version promote a misconception. It also provides convenient props—unintentionally, it may be conceded—to self-serving claims of certain parties that, had they not holed themselves up in a room at Camp Aguinaldo, hordes of people would not have gone to Edsa and Marcos would not have gone into self-exile.

In truth, the war against the deposed dictator started long before he actually proclaimed martial law.

The first significant struggle against Marcos started after he won, with the help of guns, goons, and gold, his reelection bid in 1969.

When he was scheduled to deliver his state-of-the-nation address before a joint session of Congress the following January, young activists--who demonstrated that they were far more perceptive than their elders, in that they were ahead of the latter in noticing the trend toward militarization and eventual dictatorship under Marcos--marched to congress, carrying a cardboard coffin.

That was their way of communicating to people everywhere that, with Marcos reelected, democracy died in the Philippines.

As the car of the newly reelected President drew near the front steps of the congress building, the demonstrators surged forward with their placards and the coffin. Hell broke loose immediately. Malacanang praetorian guards and police beat up the unarmed activists with guns, rifles and truncheons.

The message was brought home to the young people that night that authoritarianism and fascism had actually set in. More strident voices shouting "Marcos--Hitler, diktador [Dictator] tulá [running dog]" were heard since then.

The years between the 1970 "funeral procession" at Congress and 1972, when Marcos imposed martial law, was open season for protest assemblies and demonstrations.

It is impossible now to keep track of the many lives--of innocent and starry-eyed young men and young women--that were lost, or rendered useless, by way of sacrifice in the fight against the burgeoning dictatorship. But the number is staggering.

When martial law intruded into the lives of the people, many left for foreign shores, either to seek safety or with intention to carry out the struggle from there.

But many more ran to the mountains--there to carry on the fight, with arms this time, against all that Marcos stood for.

Not all those who stayed behind collaborated with the new dispensation.

It is true that chambers of commerce and of industry, majority of whose members count with the Makati crowd that in 1983 gaily waved the yellow flag, passed resolutions praising Marcos for instituting a regime of martial law, since it meant peace and order--and therefore, stability for trade and industry.

Many intellectuals and professionals, though, manifested right from the very start their opposition to dictatorship. Since they were not adept at the handling of arms, they used the weapons with which they were most familiar.

They went to court to protest the wholesale arrest of Marcos critics. They went to court to demand that the military produce the bodies of those whom armed soldiers wrenched from their homes in the dead of night. They went to court to assert human rights and civil liberties.

Although media was controlled, some writers succeeded in articulating, albeit surreptitiously, anti-regime concepts and perceptions. Others published on the sly tracts that were meant to inform and enlighten the masses on the significance of the various actions and policies of the dictatorship.

The workers were the most daring. At a time when the government prohibited strikes as a means to attract investments from multinationals and ensure support of foreign governments interested in exploiting the nation's resources, some of the more progressive unions did not hesitate to stage walkouts. The urban poor could not be cowed; they proceeded with marches through the city streets to ventilate their woes and their demands.

At the height of the martial law ascendancy in 1978, anti-Marcos forces dared stand up in an electoral contest against the superior power of the government.

They knew they were facing a concrete wall, but that did not daunt them. They had a mission to fulfill and they acquitted themselves creditably.

Taken together, all the above demonstrates clearly the point that opposition to the Marcos regime of tyranny and oppression started not only after Ninoy's death in 1983.

That may have been the time when correct vision of reality was restored to those who, in the beginning did not view with concern (or may even had lauded) Marcos' naked seizure of power.

The Makati yellow uprising and the Edsa revolution were just the culmination of the struggle which the activists waged in the early '70s when the rest of their countrymen were still asleep and unaware of the evil presented by the appearance of Marcos on the national scene.

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CSO: 4200/210

GOVERNMENT TO CONTEST MNLF PETITION AT UN

HK090507 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 6 Dec 86 p 1

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Leticia Ramos-Shahani yesterday said the United Nations is likely to reject petitions filed by two Muslim rebel factions declaring a separate Mindanao republic.

In another statement, Deputy Foreign Minister for Muslim Affairs Mamintal Tamano said the government will contest a bid for recognition submitted by the MNLF to the United Nations.

Shahani said the Aquino government enjoys "enormous support" from more than 80 countries, including Islamic nations, in the world organization.

"We will not tolerate secession," Shahani also warned, reacting to the separate moves by the Moro National Liberation Front and the Mindanao independent [as published] Movement [MIM] to declare a republic in the South.

"President Aquino has repeatedly declared that we will preserve the integrity of the Republic," Shahani added.

Tamano said: "We will insist that this is a domestic problem and the United Nations should not concern itself with domestic problems."

He added that even the Organization of Islamic Countries [as published] has said it does not want to interfere in Philippine domestic affairs.

Tamano warned that the declaration of a provisional government by the MNLF constitutes a seditious act. He described such a government as a mere "fantasy" but expressed concern that this move by the MNLF was violative of the letter and spirit of the agreement signed by Nur Misuari and President Aquino for a cessation of hostilities.

Tamano, who heads the MNLF task force, said the agreement to cease hostilities was broader than a ceasefire agreement.

It includes, he said, all other acts which can be considered hostile or provocative to the other.

Two separate petitions for the recognition of the independence of Mindanao were filed before the UN recently by the MNLF and the Mindanao Independent Movement.

The MNLF has asked for a beligerent [word indistinct] while the MIM has sought the [word indistinct] of the world body in the conduct of the Feb w plebiscite for the ratification of the proposed charter.

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CSO: 4200/210

BMIP, CHRISTIAN LEADER WARN AQUINO ON MINDANAO POLICY

HK101441 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Bangsa Moro Islamic Party (BMIP) warned President Aquino that its members "will support the independent Federate Moro state" should she insist on "ramming the autonomy provision of the proposed Charter in the South."

The government's Mindanao policy also received a severe drubbing by a Christian leader of Basilan who warned that the non-Muslim majority "will fight to the finish attempts to allow the secession of Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan (MINSUPALA) from the Republic."

Board Member A. Enriquez said the Christians of Western Mindanao "are armed and will not retreat, if MNLF forces under Nur Misuari will force the issue of secession."

Datu Firdausa Abbas, BMIP chairman, said the group may be "forced to unite with other Moro forces" seeking an independent Moro state and bring the war over to Manila, if their demands for autonomy for 13 provinces stipulated by the Tripoli Agreement are not met.

"The Moroland will no longer be battleground ... here we will make the last stand," he asserted.

A military officer, who requested anonymity, expressed to the INQUIRER his alarm over the heating up of the Mindanao situation as non-Muslims and Muslim tribes which had opted against secession have started arming themselves, anticipating a determined bid for independence by the MNLF.

Enriquez, who said he was not allowed to join the tightly-knit Christian forces because of his political position, stressed that there are about 2,000 in Basilan alone and some 3,000 in Zamboanga city.

"And they are arming all over in the Mindanao mainland," he added.

Abbas, on the other hand, decried the "political downgrading" of BMIP by presidential negotiator Agapito "Butz" Aquino.

Fernandez also blamed Aquino for simply confining himself to "clandestine" dialogs with Misuari and failure to consult with the Christian majority of the region.

"We are the majority, yet we are not being consulted about our future. What I am afraid of is that this feeling of being left out would force the majority to take things into their own hands if the government keeps on discriminating against them," Enriquez disclosed in an interview with INQUIRER.

Abbas demanded the replacement of Aquino as negotiator. Abbas called Aquino's efforts a "dismal failure."

That was the same impression by Enriquez who said majority of Mindanao's Christians view with suspicion Aquino's rapport with Misuari, even excluding the more numerous non-Misuari Muslim rebels, such as the followers of Salamat Hashim and Dimas Pundato.

"The president better reassess her Mindanao efforts," Enriquez added.

Earlier, Abbas had cabled the president to stop "the so-called consultations of Misuari." "These," he said, "were indoctrination campaigns on his independent Bangsa Moro Republic and a recruitment drive for more Moro youth for his army."

He also appealed to Ms. Aquino "to reconsider the autonomy provision in the draft Charter" which, he said, "violates the Tripoli agreement and preempts negotiations with the Moro forces."

The new Constitution would grant autonomy to only six provinces; the Tripoli Agreement provides this for 13 provinces.

Because of this BMIP members "will campaign for a no vote," Abbas asserted. "In fact, we have started already," he added.

BMIP also demand:

To immediately inform the organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) that the Philippine Government is ready to commence negotiations with all Moro parties for the implementation of the agreement.

To declare that Article X of the draft Charter shall apply only to the Cordilleras and the agreement between the government and the Moro leaders be either incorporated or appended to the proposed Constitution.

To appoint Central Mindanao autonomous regional government chairman Zacarias Candao as head of the MNLF Task Force in lieu of deputy Minister Mamintal Tamano whom BMIP criticized as lukewarm to the Tripoli Agreement and for failing to unite the three Moro revolutionary factions.

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CSO: 4200/210

PHILIPPINES

MILF OFFICIAL ASSURES PUBLIC ON AUTONOMY

HK091533 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 Dec 86 p 10

[Article by Joey Lozano]

[Text] The Mindanao News Service reported from Sultan Kudarat that the Bangsamoro people's call for an autonomous region should not cause fear among Mindanao residents.

Its implementation will be "within the realms of national sovereignty and territorial integrity" of the country, the top commander of the Rajah Buayan Revolutionary Committee (RBRC) said recently.

"I call on our Christian brothers and other residents of Mindanao to have no fear. Islam guarantees equal rights and justice for all regardless of creed and political beliefs," appealed Kumander [spelling as published] Tigre, military chief of the RBRC, one of the territorial committees of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

The RBRC's jurisdiction includes South Cotabato, Gen. Santos City and parts of Sultan Kudarat and Davao del Sur.

Kumander Tigre gave this assurance during an interview last week in his mountain lair at Colong-colong, Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat.

He assailed key military and civilian officials of South Cotabato for "undermining the call for autonomy."

The resolutions during the MILF-Military Consultative Assembly at Darapanan, Maguindanao, last October 8, said Kumander Tigre, defined that autonomy means the recognition of the Bangsamoro's inherent right to self-determination.

Such right, he added, will be operative "within the realm of national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines."

The right to self-determination, he said "is a basic right of all peoples to determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development."

The call for an autonomous government, the MILF officer said, "shall be guided by the basic political principles and systems enunciated in the Tripoli Agreement of 1976."

"Please do not feed the people with the propaganda that we will seize lands and properties," he appealed to civilian and military officials.

"The MILF will defend and protect the land and properties of anybody within the autonomous region," he guaranteed, but warned that "those who undermine us through the use of arms and lies shall be dealt with accordingly."

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CSO: 4200/210

OPPOSITION URGES GOVERNMENT UNITY ON TRUCE

HK101445 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 11

[Text] The opposition urged government leaders and military authorities yesterday to work closely together and help President Aquino draw up a definitive policy that would resolve the controversy on the security issue which might jeopardize the 60-day ceasefire agreement.

The Nacionalista Party (NP) said people might think the military and civilian arms of government are not working together because the military organization is left alone to speak for itself.

The Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), meanwhile, called for a coalition of all democratic forces in the country to stem the communist tide and prevent a communist takeover of government.

Speaking for the NP Central Committee, former MP [Member of Parliament] Renato L. Cayetano, secretary general, said civilian political leaders of the Aquino Administration should speak out publicly on the agreement concerning military patrols and the right of the military to arrest members of the New People's Army (NPA) carrying unlicensed firearms.

"The civilian leaders of government should be in the forefront in interpreting the agreement since they negotiated it in the first place," Cayetano said.

Cayetano said the controversy indicates there has been no meeting of the minds between negotiators for government and the National Democratic Front (NDF).

He asked President Aquino to speak out publicly and support the military position on the agreement. Otherwise, he said, the President's silence might be interpreted that she disapproves of the military's interpretation of the accord.

Former speaker Nicanor E. Yniguez, acting KBL president, sounded the call for an immediate coalition because he claimed the Aquino government and the military establishment "had become virtual hostages of the communists."

Yniguez blamed the Aquino administration for "coddling" top communist leaders and for giving the movement a high political profile it hardly expected or deserved.

He said the government's decision to initiate peace talks with the insurgents "was a grave mistake."

Former Rizal governor Isidor Rodriguez, KBL executive vice president, said the communists will respect the ceasefire accord only for so long as they can position themselves at a greater advantage.

He claimed the Aquino government is in a "no-win" situation in its negotiations with the rebels because they will sabotage the truce, use any pretext, and blame the government for the fiasco the moment their demands are not accepted.

Former MP Salvador B. Britanico, KBL secretary general, said the administration should scuttle the agreement and launch a massive military offensive and a psychological warfare against the communists.

Former assemblyman Gerry Espina, Manila KBL chairman, said Mrs Aquino must assume full responsibility for whatever may be the outcome of the truce. He suggested the President designate to the National Ceasefire Committee her closest advisers and not members of the Supreme Court.

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CSO: 4200/210

MARCOS HAND IN INSURGENCY SAID 'VERY POSSIBLE'

HK090431 Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 30 Oct 86 pp 1, 10

[By Visayan HERALD news team]

[Text] The speculations that deposed President Marcos is behind the rise of insurgency in the country is very possible.

This was the view of RUC [Regional Unified Command] 7 chief Brig. Gen. Romulo Querubin in an interview with a local radio station last night.

Querubin was reacting to caller's observation that the insurgency problem has surprisingly increased nowadays compared to the period when Mr. Marcos still ruled the nation.

The caller asked General Querubin if he would agree to speculations that some rebel groups are creation of Mr. Marcos in order to discredit the Aquino government as well as win back the sympathy of American government.
[sentence as published]

To this, the RUC 7 commander said this is very possible "because in power play there is no limit on what to do." He did not elaborate.

When asked by another caller what group he would side in case Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile will revolt against the Aquino regime, Querubin insisted it will not happen. [sentence as published]

He said if possible the military should not allow any division of top personalities in the government and military (referring to President Aquino, Minister Enrile and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos).

In the same interview, General Querubin reiterated that his command will soon launch a new counter-insurgency program in the region.

Earlier, in an interview with VISAYAN HERALD, Querubin said local government officials will have a major role to play under the new scheme.

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CSO: 4200/210

HOSTILITIES REPORTED IN BICOL ON EVE OF TRUCE

HK090438 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 8 Dec 86 pp 1, 6

[Text] Daraga, Albay--Armed hostilities have actually worsened here on the eve of the implementation of the cease-fire agreement between the government and underground guerrillas forces. At least five people have been killed and nine wounded, one arrested and another one abducted since December 1.

The latest incident here was the bombing last December 4 of the house of a farmer's family at the village of Banag, Daraga. The bombing almost wiped out the whole family.

Dolores Trillianes, 29, the housewife, died during her treatment at the Albay Provincial Hospital while her husband Jaime, 30, and son Joseph, 8, died on the spot.

The six other Trillianes children--Richmond, 16; Vicente, 12; Sonny Boy, 6; Joel, 4; Flordeliza, 3; and six-month old Gemma--were seriously wounded, along with their three-year old cousin, Melissa.

The bombing occurred at around 3 p.m., according to Jaime's brother, Henry. He denied Daraga police reports that the New People's Army (NPA) was responsible. He said it might be the military or someone with a grudge against his brother who did it.

The police were able to recover a grenade pin near the Trillianes shanty the night after the incident. They also apprehended a suspect.

At the village of Monte Carmelo, Castilla, Sorsogon, another farmer was killed during a military operation conducted by elements of the 257th PC [Philippines Constabulary] Company in the area.

Task Force Detainees Bicol (TFD-BICOL) reported last December 1 that members of the 257th PC Company shot Dionisio Adalin, instantly killing him, while his companion, Oscar Manolis, was seriously wounded during the same incident.

The wounded Manolis was taken to the 257th PC Company where he was beaten, the TFD-BICOL report also said.

In Gainza, Camarines Sur, a policeman was shot dead while on his way to the town police station. TFD-BICOL sources said seven armed men believed to be members of the NPA shot the patrolman.

PHILIPPINES

DANGER OF CPLA-NPA WAR IN CORDILLERA CITED

HK051417 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 5 Dec 86 pp 1, 6

[Article by Roy S. de Guzman]

[Text] Baguio City—The Cordillera People's Alliance (CPA), a cause-oriented group claiming [words indistinct] of 126 others, said the Cordillera peace talks are bound to collapse because they were not included.

It also warned a collapse of the talks could mean an all out war between the New People's Army and the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) of Conrado Balweg.

Balweg broke off from the NPA last April and formed the CPLA.

In a letter to President Aquino, CPA Secretary General Fr. Eduardo Solang said a CPLA-NPA war will complicate existing tribal wars and result in the death of innocent civilians.

Another CPA leader, James Balao, told the INQUIRER they are not against the negotiations, but asked why Balweg continues to block efforts of their organization to participate.

Kalinga-Apayao acting Gov. Willian Claver told reporters last week that the government initiated the talks for its own propaganda purposes while the CPLA agreed to negotiate so it can consolidate its forces, strengthen its ranks and gain concessions.

"The way negotiations are going, it seems to be leading to nothing but a declaration of war against the NPA. Why talk to Balweg when he has capitulated to the government side?" Claver said.

Claver's views are held significant because he is among the first to support the peace talks, attending meetings between the government and the Balweg group.

A rebel coalition, the Cordillera People's Democratic Front (CPDF), said Balweg and company have apparently turned their backs to the rebels' call for reconciliation, leaving the front no choice but armed confrontation.

The CPDF also charged that some members of Balweg's group are conniving with the military to deliver unsuspecting Cordillera rebels and citizens "directly into the hands of the fascist armed forces."

The government CPLA peace negotiations, focusing on the Cordillera people's demand for an autonomous region are to start here Dec. 15.

Two other organizations involved in the talks, the Cordillera Bodong [peace pact] Association (CEA) and the Cordillera Broad Association (CBC), are pushing for a regional administrative body before autonomy takes effect two years from now.

If the Constitution is ratified, the issue of autonomy for the Cordilleras and Muslim Mindanao will be taken up by Congress next year. It takes 18 months before a law on autonomy could be passed, as provided in the draft Charter.

All is not well with the CBA and CBC however. Ranking CBA officials Daniel Ngayaan and Marcelo Fakilang said the majority of the 35 tribes comprising the CBA were not consulted by their chairman, Mario Yag-ao, who has been participating in the talks.

The CBC, on the other hand, was questioned by militant leaders of Baguio for including "dubious and corrupt characters from the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan" in the organization.

The government, through presidential emissary Agapito "Butz" Aquino, started negotiating with the CPLA in July. On Sept. 13, President Aquino flew to Bauko. Mt. Province, to forge a ceasefire agreement with the CPLA.

The Cordilleras is composed of the provinces of Abra, Benguet, Kalinga-Apayao, Ifugao and Mt. Province.

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CSO: 4200/210

OLALIA FUNERAL SAID TO BE NPA DRY RUN FOR MOBILIZATION

HK081513 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 6 Dec 86 pp 1, 15

[Text] The funeral three weeks ago of murdered labor leader Rolando Olalia of the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement] which drew a huge crowd was "actually a mobilization dry run" by the New People's Army (NPA) ringing Metro Manila to test how fast it can assemble its men at a given time.

Military sources said most of NPAs in the countryside--Northern and Southern Luzon, Eastern and Western Visayas, and the whole of Mindanao--have come in trickles to Metro Manila and its out-skirts, preparatory to launching a "strategic offensive" in their bid to seize government power.

The sources said the closing in on the seat of the national government by the NPAs has gained credence because of the drastic decrease of rebel attacks and ambushes in areas known to be NPA controlled since the ceasefire agreement was signed on Nov. 27.

Earlier Defense Minister Rafael M. Ilete said that 750 NPA "sparrows" were already in Metro Manila.

Three days ago, Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, New Armed Forces chief of staff, noted that attacks by NPA "sparrow units" were getting closer to the urban centers.

Sources said that the "mobilization dry-run" during the funeral of Olalia and his driver, Leonor Alay-sy, was actually a test on how fast the NPAs now in Metro Manila can respond when their full-scale attack, dubbed as "Operation Diamond," is finally launched.

Prior to the "dry run," sources said that the NPAs, through the National Democratic Front (NDF), scheduled a "Welga ng Bayan" [People's strike] with supporters from the labor sector to paralyze transportation in Metro Manila.

However, according to the sources, it was noted that the response was not convincing and did not constitute a "people power" comparable to that of EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] last February.

According to sources, "Operation Diamond" derived its name from the positioning of the NPAs in places around Metro Manila, including Meycauayan, Novaliches, Valenzuela, Navotas, Malabon, and Caloocan; Marikina [sentence is not completed].

NDF ACCUSES ISABELA COLONEL IN OLALIA KILLING

HK090439 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 8 Dec 86 pp 1, 6

[Article by Marvyn Benaning]

[Text] The National Democratic Front (NDF), umbrella for all the major communist groups in the country, said yesterday a military colonel now on duty in Isabela may have been involved in the kidnapping and murder last month of labor leader Rolando Olalia.

Antonio Zumel, NDF negotiator in current peace talks between the communist rebels and the government, said, in an exclusive interview with THE MANILA TIMES, they received reports from NDF units in the Cagayan Valley that the colonel bears more than a striking resemblance to the man, who among others, "cased" the Olalia home in Mandaluyong for a few days immediately before the killing.

Zumel said a sketch of the man published in the November 17 issue of THE MANILA TIMES fits the military officer in terms of height, build, complexion and hair. He declined, however, to identify the officer.

He added that his men in Isabela were surprised to see the newspaper sketch since they often saw the officer in the province.

He said the officer also has kinky hair and was seen many times wearing the same heart-shaped gold earring that witnesses said was pinned on his right earlobe.

When asked whether or not the officer was actively involved in [words indistinct] operations in Isabela, Zumel said he could not give more details since the NDF is preparing its own report on the matter, which it will forward to Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales.

He said he could not say whether or not the officer is a member of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), the Armed Defenders of Democracy (ADD), the Integrees and Reserve Officers Group (IROG) or other factions in the military.

He said the communist groups are concerned about the slow progress in the investigation of Olalia's killing.

Zumel said the NDF has been receiving reports as to the identities of the killers of Olalia.

He said the New People's Army, armed wing of the local communists, has been conducting its own investigations, but refused to give details about it.

Earlier, President Aquino had pledged to solve the Olalia killing as she ordered all law enforcement agencies of the government to work faster on the case.

However, Task Force Olalia, the government committee set up to investigate the case headed by Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales, has yet to show positive results after more than three weeks.

The killing of Olalia resulted in the communist groups staging a general strike which paralyzed operations in the Export Processing Zone in Bataan, in Cebu and a few business companies in Metro Manila for a number of days.

Zumel, who joined about 50,000 marchers at the Olalia funeral, said a military group supported by the United States could be behind Olalia's killing.

When asked whether or not the NDF has a "dossier" on the colonel mentioned, Zumel said the documents they have sent to the justice minister would have all the details the press would need.

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CSO: 4200/210

EDITORIAL CALLS CPLA DEMANDS 'UNACCEPTABLE'

HK041409 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Dec 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Making Impossible Demands"]

[Text] There is a disturbing tendency among rebel groups to demand from the government grossly unacceptable concessions in the course of the peace negotiations. The latest example of this is the demand of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army [CPLA] for government recognition of the CPLA as the sole security force in the Cordilleras.

The demand simply means having a security force independent of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the government did right in outrightly rejecting it. With demands such as this, how can we expect any meaningful headway in the peace initiatives of the government? The protagonists in the current peace efforts should be told early in the game by the government panelists what is negotiable and what is not. Otherwise, both sides would only be wasting their time in an exercise that is doomed to fail from the very start.

There is reason to believe that the government is determined to grant genuine autonomy to the people of the Cordilleras and the Muslim areas in Mindanao. In fact the 1986 draft Constitution contains specific provisions to that effect. But when the other party starts asking concessions outside the realm of autonomy, the peace process could be seriously jeopardized.

The only way the peace effort should go is to keep an open mind and seek only concessions that can be granted by either side without undermining its honor and credibility.

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CSO: 4200/210

PARTIDO NG BAYAN REBUTS CORPUS ALLEGATIONS

HK090111 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] Partido ng Bayan [PNB--People's Party] secretary general Alan Jazmines yesterday dismissed claims of Lt. Col. Victor Corpus as mere opinions, saying "he is entitled to them, no matter how worthless they are."

Corpus was quoted by a morning daily (not the CHRONICLE) as saying that the PNB was established by Jose Ma. Sison and Bernabe Buscayno as a "shield" for the Left to enter the electoral arena. Sison is believed to be the founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines while Buscayno or Kumander Dante, the founder of the New People's Army [NPA].

Corpus, who joined the NPA in 1971 but returned to the military last month, said that the PNB is the only political party in the country being backed by an armed force, obviously referring to the NPA.

"The PNB objects to Lt. Col. Corpus' anti-democratic assumption that an organization which does not have the same opinions as he and his military co-conspirators, has no right to try to win power through electoral means," Jazmines said.

He noted the "transformation" of Corpus who, he said, was once a "true nationalist and a democrat." Jazmines added that "Corpus now joins the ranks of the innumerable rightists, fascists, Marcos diehards, and lunatics who have made anti-communism their primary objective."

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CSO: 4200/210

PHILIPPINES PAPER REPORTS ON CPP TAX SCHEME

HK021254 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 2 Dec 86 pp 9, 10

[By reporter Joel D. Lacsamana]

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), which views itself as the "government of the Filipino masses," has a refined taxation scheme to sustain the operations of its political arm, the National Democratic Front (NDF), and support its military faction," the New People's Army (NPA).

This taxation scheme, ratified by its party congress in December, 1968, has a plethora of taxes designed for wage-earners, peasants, consumers and businesses alike.

A CPP document entitled "Programme for a People's Democratic Revolution in the Philippines" stated that the party "shall compel the reduction of rent and interest rates in guerrilla zones and abolish rent in the liberated areas, abolish exorbitant taxes and miscellaneous levies and establish a consolidated progressive tax, collect fair agricultural tax and a fair business tax from the petty and the national bourgeoisie."

Chapter IX, entitled "Agricultural Taxes" of the CPP's revolutionary guide for land reform, provides that taxes shall be collected in kind or cash from the peasants masses after every harvest on the basis of family heads of households.

The CPP has also adopted a scheme for payment of agricultural tax to other elements of the agricultural sector as follows:

- peasants of middle-middle class status - 5 percent of net crop.
- tenants - 2 percent of the net crop after paying rent to the landlord.
- rich peasants, upper-middle peasants and other non-cultivator owners of agricultural lands - 10 percent of the net crop.
- peasant associations - 2 percent of the monthly net income (monthly basis).

--agricultural capitalists - 10 percent to 50 percent of net income (yearly basis).

--agricultural workers - 5 percent to 10 percent of wage increases gained as a result on CPP assistance (monthly basis).

The CPP/NPA generates funds primarily through the so-called "progressive taxation" scheme. This mode of taxation has been envisioned in the "people's democratic government," as contained in the party's constitution.

Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, recently revealed that progressive taxation is currently being implemented in "liberated areas" where the insurgents have gained considerable influence.

The main targets of this scheme are big agro-industrial firms, commercial establishments and various moneyed individuals. The amount of the progressive tax levied varies depending on the target.

For example, progressive taxes levied on logging concessionaires and sawmill operators per logging season are based on the size of the concession area, production capacity, number of machineries used and what the CPP calls "degree of labor exploitation."

The manner of collection also differs markedly from the usual way the government extracts taxes. For the insurgents, thinly-veiled intimidation works wonders. Demand letters to target establishments are normally sent and if this does not work, target firms are harassed through the sabotage of their equipment and the hostaging or outright liquidation of their personnel.

According to statistics released by the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] public information office [PIO], the NPA conducted 75 such attacks destroying equipment worth P31 million.

This year, 64 cases have so far been recorded, with an estimated P163 million worth of property either burned or destroyed. Twenty-seven of these were committed in Luzon, another 27 were conducted in Mindanao, while the remaining 10 were recorded in the Visayas.

From January to October this year, AFP-PIO reported that 55 business establishments have been victims of various NPA atrocities in connection with the progressive taxation scheme. Of these, 26 were in Luzon, 19 were in Mindanao and 10 were in the Visayas.

Recorded as recent victims were the Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP) in Surigao del Sur with P28 million worth of heavy equipment destroyed; and Roa Wood Industries also in Surigao del Sur with an estimated P14.35 million worth of heavy equipment destroyed; the Apex Mining Corporation in Maco, Davao del Norte and the Dasusico in Sulop, Davao del Sur.

The AFP-PIO noted that the insurgents seem to have concentrated their taxation activities in Luzon and Mindanao where large agricultural, industrial and mining establishments are found.

The CPP/NPA in Region 2 generates much of its finances from progressive taxes collected through "Operation Sweet Elephant" (OSE). OSE is primarily aimed at collecting money based on rates imposed on logging concessionaires and sawmill operators in the region. Big businessmen and banana dealers are also reportedly targeted by OSE.

Last year, the NPA in the region generated around P8 to P15 million through OSE. This year, however the targeted amount may double as the CPP, according to AFP-PIO studies, seems bent on intensifying its armed struggle through major offensives.

The possibility that logging may be banned anytime could also prompt CPP to expand its collection efforts, the AFP-PIO report said. So far, the NPA has collected about P6.2 million and around P100,000 worth of material and logistical requirements. Much of the collection is concentrated in Cagayan and the Apayao sub-province.

In the CPP/NPA's OSE as monitored by the AFP-PIO, the following are the rates and fees levied on logging concessions and sawmill operators and their equipment per logging season:

--P40,000 per hydraulic power shift.

--P10,000 per mechanical shift.

--P10,000 per bulldozer.

--P5,000 per small-type bulldozer.

--P2,000 per crane/log loader/glider/puller.

--P1,000 per hauling truck.

--P500 per chainsaw.

--P0.25 to P0.30 per board foot of felled logs by the concession.

--P0.15 to P0.20 per board foot of felled logs by sub-contractors.

A logging company is also required to give P75,000 worth of food and another P150,000 worth of other logistical requirements for every 7.5 million board feet produced.

Thirty-seven logging companies are reported to be in Cagayan Valley. Of these, 14 are in Isabela, 12 are in Cagayan, six are in Quirino, two each are in Nueva Vizcaya and Kalinga-Apayao and one is in Ifugao. These logging concessions have at least 333 bulldozers, 699 logging trucks and 307 chainsaws. This year's allowable cut in the region is 2,083,706 cubic meters.

To have a complete data on which to base their appraisal of the logging concessions and sawmill owners, the AFP-PIO reported that the NPA investigates the following: record of production, BFD/scalers' report, price per board foot (round/lumber), percentage of production for export, cost of production, inspectors' pay, yearly taxes for the government, classification of wood, stockholders/investors/dummies, connection with the military, number/type of machineries, xerox copy of license, areas of operation, working force and labor problems.

A scheme adopted by some logging concessionaires to pass the "tax burden" is the employment of sub-contractors to operate their concessions in return for royalty payments so as to avoid direct contact with the insurgents. This practice is known as "farming the license" which is a violation of forestry administrative order II S-1970.

In Central Luzon, progressive taxes are levied on prominent businessmen, rich families/persons, sugar and rice plantation owners, logging concessionaires, fishpond owners, rice millers, quarry operators and NPA supporters and sympathizers.

In Southern Tagalog, the NPA is said to be collecting 10 percent of the farmer's produce in some provinces as well as 15 percent of proceeds from copra sales of coconut planters. The AFP-PIO reported that lately, the NPA has introduced a bracket system of the income, real properties and landholdings of their targets to determine the amount of progressive tax to be collected.

In the Bicol region, the following tax rates are collected:

- 50 percent of total produce from coconut farmers;
- P30 monthly from store owners;
- P50 monthly from rice mill owners;
- P100 monthly from fishermen and small fishpond operators;
- P1.00 to P2.00 monthly from every family;
- P2.00 to P5.00 weekly or P50.00 and one sack of rice monthly from barangay captains, etc.

In Legaspi City, the NPA is said to have required basing operators to contribute part of their fish catch or an equivalent amount twice a month.

In Sorsogon, a fund-raising system called "rebolusyong agrario" has been introduced, stating that 40 percent of the total produce of an agricultural land should go to the tenants, 30 percent to the landlords, 20 percent to the farmers and 10 percent to the NPA. If the landowners disagree with the system, the AFP-PIO reported, the NPA divides the produce between the NPA and the tenants only.

In Western Visayas, the NPA reportedly imposes the following taxation scheme: P2,000 to P5,000 on sugar planters; P5,000 to P10,000 yearly on big landowners; P0.50 to P0.80 per day on hacienda workers; one to three sacks of palay every harvest season from farmers; P5.00 monthly on public school teachers; P1.00 for every P7.00 earned by laborers; and P2.00 per board foot on lumberjacks.

In Cebu, CPP funds are reportedly replenished by regular collection of dues, pledges, and material support every 15th and 30th of the month from party members, supporters/sympathizers and other fund-raising projects.

In Eastern Visayas, the insurgents' progressive taxation scheme is reportedly as follows:

--farmers - P7.00 per month.

--government employees - 10 percent of monthly income.

--sari-sari store owners - 7 percent of monthly income.

--laborers - 5 percent of monthly income.

--landowners - 2/3 of the produce.

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CSO: 4200/210

PAPER REVEALS CPP-NPA TAXATION SCHEME

HK090811 Man: ~~is~~ MANILA BULLETIN in English 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Dec 86

[By Jose de Vera]

[Part I, 6 Dec 86 pp 1, 18]

[Text] (This series on the so-called "Revolutionary Progressive Taxation Scheme" is based on official documents, "documents meant to be captured," and interviews with knowledgeable persons. - Editor)

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), in ratifying its program for a people's democratic revolution through its national congress has established a tax system to sustain its operations and support its armed struggle against the government.

The tax system consists of "fair agricultural tax and a fair business tax (to be collected) from the petty and the national bourgeoisie."

Chapter IX [Roman Nine] of the program entitled "Agricultural Taxes" provides that tax payments in kind or cash shall be collected from the peasant masses after every harvest on the basis of family heads or households.

The rate of payment follows:

Peasants of middle-middle [as published] class status, five percent of net crop.

Tenants, two percent of the net crop after paying rent to the landlord.

Rich peasants, upper-middle peasants and other non-cultivator owners of agricultural lands, 10 percent of the net crop.

Peasant associations, two percent monthly net income (monthly basis).

Agricultural capitalists, 10 to 50 percent of net income (yearly basis).

Agricultural workers, five to 10 percent of wage [words indistinct] gained as a result of the assistance of the New People's Army, military arm of the CPP. This levy is on a monthly basis.

The "invisible government," backed up by the NPA, generates funds primarily through the so-called "progressive taxation" scheme.

At present, the progressive taxation scheme is being implemented in "liberated areas" which are actually places where the insurgents have gained considerable influence.

The main targets are being agro-industrial firms, commercial establishments and moneyed individuals. The amount of the progressive tax levied on logging concessionaires and saw-mill operators per logging season are based on the size of the concession area, production capacity, number of machineries used and degree of labor exploitation.

Normally, the CPP-NPA "tax collectors" first send demand letters to target establishments. To ensure payment of the "taxes," the insurgents generally employ coercive tactics. Companies which refuse to pay the taxes are harassed by the insurgents through sabotage of their equipment and hostageing or liquidation of their personnel.

In 1985, official records show that the insurgents conducted 75 attacks, destroying equipment worth P31 million.

This year, 64 raids have so far been recorded, with an estimated P163 million worth of property either burned or destroyed. Of these, 27 in Mindanao, and 10 in the Visayas.

From January to October this year, the records show 55 business establishments have been victimized by progressive taxation scheme--26 in Luzon, 19 in Mindanao and 10 in the Visayas.

The recent victims include the Paper Industrial Corporation of the Philippines (PICOP) in Surigao del Sur with P28 million worth of heavy equipment destroyed; the Roa Wood Industries also in Surigao del Sur with P14.35 million of heavy equipment destroyed; the Apex Mining Corporation in Maco, Davao del Norte, and the DASUSICO [expansion unknown] in Sulop, Davao del Sur.

It will be noted that the insurgents concentrate their extortion activities in Luzon and Mindanao where large agricultural, industrial and mining establishments are found.

[Part II, 7 Dec 86 pp 1, 16]

[Text] The communist "invisible" government's tax collection scheme varies according to region.

In Northern Luzon, particularly Region 2 (Cagayan Valley), the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA), generates much of its financial and material resources from taxes collected through "Operation Sweet Elephant" (OSE).

Main targets of OSE are logging concessions and sawmill operators, big businessmen and banana dealers. The OSE uses coercion methods to ensure compliance.

Official records compiled by government authorities show that last year, the CPP-NPA in the Cagayan region collected P15 million through OSE.

This year, however, the amount may double as the CPP-NPA appears to have intensified its armed struggle as indicated by the upsurge of major offensives recently. The increased activities could have been spurred by the possibility of a ban on the logging industry.

So far, OSE has reportedly collected about P6.2 million and around P100,000 worth of material and logistical requirements. Much of the collection is concentrated in Cagayan and the Kalinga-Apayao area.

The rates and fees levied on logging concessionaires and sawmill operators and their equipment per logging season follow: P40,000 per hydraulic power shift; P10,000 per mechanical shift; P10,000 per bulldozer, P5,000 per smalltype bulldozer; P2,000 per crane/log loader/glider/puller; P1,000 per hauling truck; P500 per chainsaw; P0.25 to P0.30 per board foot of felled logs by the concession; and P0.15 to P0.20 per board foot of felled logs by sub-contractors.

Aside from these fees, a logging company is also required to give P75,000 worth of food supplies and another P150,000 worth of other logistical requirements for every 7.5-million board feet produced.

Bureau of Forest Development (BFD) and military records show that in Cagayan Valley, there are 37 logging companies. Of this number, 14 are in Isabela; 12 in Cagayan; six are in Quirino; two each in Nueva Vizcaya and Kalinga Apayao; and one in Ifugao.

All these logging concessions have at least 333 bulldozers, 699 logging trucks, and 307 chainsaws. This year's allowable cut in the region, according to BFD, is 2,083,706 cubic meters.

The CPP-NPA's OSE has managed to have a complete data on which to base their appraisal of the logging concessions and sawmills by investigating the record of production, BFD/SCALER's report, price per board foot (round lumber),

percentage of production for export, cost export, cost of production, inspector's pay, yearly taxes for the government, classification of wood, stockholders/investors/dummies, connection with the military, number/type of machineries, xerox copy of license, areas of operation, working force and labor problems.

The OSE, not allowing itself to be fooled, has discovered a scheme adopted by some logging concessionaires to pass on the "tax-burden" by employing sub-contractors to operate their concessions.

Through this scheme, the sub-contractors receive royalty, thereby sparing the concessionaires from direct contact with the insurgents. Such practice is known as "farming the license" which is a violation of Forestry Administrative Order No 11, S-1970.

[Part III, 8 Dec 86 pp 1, 21]

[Text] The communists' "invisible government" in Central Luzon derives its "revolutionary progressive taxes" from a variety of sources with the so-called "bagong [new] hukbong [army] nabal [translation unknown] ng [of] bayan [nation]" (Banaba) doing the coercive collection.

Sources of taxes include fishpond owners, prominent businessmen, rich families and persons, sugar and rice plantation owners, logging concessionaires, rice millers, quarry operators, and supporters and sympathizers of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA).

Records made available by government sources, backed up by confirmatory information by resentful "taxpayers," show that just recently, Banaba managed to collect P15,000 from fishpond owners and operators per harvest in Bulacan, Pampanga and Zambales.

Banaba also levy specific taxes on the following:

One peso for every sack of palay, or P50 every harvest season from each farmer; P3,000 per harvest from fishpond owners, P100 each monthly from well-to-do families, and another P100 monthly from each family whose head is working abroad.

The Banaba also reportedly collects 20 percent for every P50 collected from each consumer from the Pampanga Electric Co. The Provincial Party Committee (PPC) for Pampanga, Bataan and Nueva Ecija has an annual collection of approximately P1.8 million.

In Aurora, Bulacan, Tarlac and Zambales, the PPCs raise around P800,000 monthly. In Bulacan specifically, the progressive taxes imposed on the municipalities of Baliuag, Bustos, San Rafael, Angat and Norzagaray reached between P60,000 and P80,000.

The main source of taxes are quarry operators doing business along the Angat River and the northernmost side of Camarin, Caloocan City near the Bulacan boundary.

In Southern Tagalog, the CPP-NPA invisible government's tax collectors get 10 percent of the farmers' produce in the town of Lopez, Quezon. They also collect 15 percent of the proceeds of copra sales from coconut planters.

Lately, the NPA collectors used a bracket system for the income, real property and land holdings of their targets to determine the amount of progressive tax to be collected. Usually, the big landlords are levied P20,000 a year in "taxes."

Over in the Bicol region, the following tax rates or amounts are collected:

Fifty percent of total produce from coconut planters, 40 percent of income from big land owners, P30 monthly from fishermen and small fishpond operators, one to two pesos monthly from every family, P50 monthly from rice mill owners, P100 monthly from store owners, P2 to P5 weekly or P50 and one sack of rice monthly from barangay captains, P5 to P10 monthly from teachers, 50 centavos to P1 monthly from working youth, and P5 monthly from gold panners.

In Legazpi City, the CPP-NPA invisible government requires [word indistinct] operators to contribute part of their catch or an equivalent amount twice a month.

In Sorsogon the fund-raising system, dubbed "rebulusyong Agrario [agrarian revolution]" requires that 40 percent of the total produce of a certain agricultural land should go to the tenants, 30 percent to the landlords, 20 percent to the farmers, and 10 percent to the invisible government.

If the landowners disagree with the system, the CPP-NPA would divide the produce between the invisible government and the tenants only, leaving landowners without any share of his harvest.

[Part IV, 9 Dec 86 pp 1, 11]

[Text] General Fidel V. Ramos, New Armed Forces chief of staff, has expressed the view that the progressive revolutionary taxation of the New People's Army (NPA) "Invisible government" is repressive as well as pure and simple armed extortion.

As in other areas of the country, "taxes" are levied in the Visayas on sugar planters, big landowners, hacienda workers, farmers, public school teachers, laborers, lumberjacks, and others.

In Western Visayas, sugar planters are taxed P2,000 to P5,000 yearly; big landowners, P5,000 to P10,000; hacienda workers, P0.50 to P0.80 a day; farmers, one to three sacks of palay every harvest season; public school teachers, P5 a month, laborers, P1 for every P7 earned; and lumberjacks, P2 per board foot.

Military reports said that for failure to give financial support, around 30 NPA "sparrows" raided a farmhouse in barangay Cansilagan, Murcia, Negros Occidental, last May 20 and ran off with P400,000 worth of agricultural equipment and 12 sacks of palay.

In Kabankalan, Negros Occidental, "sparrows" are forcing sugar planters and businessmen to give taxes in cash or kind ranging from P2,000 to P25,000.

The excessive taxation scheme on rural residents in the province have forced residents to leave their farms and evacuate to safer places.

Last Sept. 28, 12 families from barangay Lumbia in Cauayan town evacuated to barangay Tabuk Suba due to heavy taxation by the insurgents.

In Cebu, the CPP-[Communist Party of the Philippines] NPA's funds come from the regular collection of dues, pledges, and material support every 15th and 30th of the month from party members, supporters, and sympathizers, and fundraising projects.

In Eastern Visayas, the insurgents' taxation scheme follows: farmers, P7 per month; government employees, 10 percent of monthly income; sari-sari store owners, seven percent of monthly income; laborers, five percent of monthly income; and landowners, two-thirds of the produce.

[Part V, 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 10]

[Text] Next to Luzon, it is in Mindanao where the communist "invisible government" derives huge operational funds through its progressive taxation scheme.

In Western Mindanao, confirmed reports said that the Siari Timber Company, Mindanao Estate Timber Company, and Siraway Plywood Lumber Company are paying "taxes" for the support of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA). The insurgents also collect 15 cavans for every 100 cavans of palay and five cavans for every 40 cavans of corn harvested by farmers and P2 to P5 monthly from every family.

The NPAs operating in Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur, are collecting monthly contributions of P500 to P2,000 from businessmen. The CPP-NPA realizes much from contributions made by members of the Revolutionary Mass Organization (RMO), particularly in the towns of Mutia, Pinan, Polanco, Sergio Osmena, and Dapitan City.

The amount collected from RMO members: P5 each for the head of the family, mother, and working child; and P1 for every child aged 1 to 10 years old. Through this operation, the insurgents collected P72,000 in 1984.

The insurgents resort to harassment and coercion in collecting taxes in Region 10, including Cagayan de Oro City.

One case was the burning of five logging trucks, three tractors, two loaders, and one trailer of the Mainit Lumber Development Corp. (Maldeco) on Dec. 7, 1985, in Jabonga, Agusan del Norte, destroying property worth P5 million.

In 1983, Maldeco gave P10,000 for the release of its workers held hostage by the insurgents. Then on Aug. 23, 1985, around 20 NPAs again held hostage 74 workers and several pieces of heavy equipment and demanded P300,000 for their release.

The following day, Maldeco negotiated the release of the hostages and equipment in exchange for three chainsaws, five sacks of rice, canned goods, and P15,000.

Not content, the insurgents left a note to the Maldeco management saying that they would be back to get the balance of their P300,000 demand.

The burning of the Maldeco equipment was in retaliation for its failure to give the remaining amount.

This year, the insurgents also burned the logging equipment of Butuan Logging Company and Jessmag in Agusan del Sur and the P & B Logging Corp. in Misamis Oriental, destroying property worth P86.5 million.

The insurgents also impose taxes on gold panners in Rosario, Agusan del Sur, and collect compulsory contributions from company workers, particularly in the Philippine Packing in Balingasag, Misamis Oriental.

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CSO: 4200/210

EDITORIAL URGES LEGALIZING OF COMMUNIST PARTY

HK031423 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 3 Dec 86 p 9

[Editorial: "Into the Parliamentary Process"]

[Text] The cease-fire agreement between the Government and the National Democratic Front [NDF] has gotten off to an auspicious start. Since it was signed last Friday, there have been fewer armed clashes reported from the field. Negotiators from both sides have been caught in the euphoria stemming from the truce that is still to begin formally on December 10. There is sweetness and light prevailing in both the government and the dissident camps.

The armed forces, the institution most concerned that the cease-fire agreements are not breached and are not going to give the insurgents undue advantage, have responded to the reconciliation climate with subdued sense of responsibility. The new leadership in the Defense Ministry has been reasonable in trying to give the cease-fire a chance to work—or at least reach the next phase, the discussion of substantive issues leading to a political settlement.

It is only realistic to expect that the substantive phase of the negotiations would be very difficult. There is no known case anywhere in the world in which a cease-fire over communist insurgency has resulted in a political settlement. The enormous goodwill behind the negotiations for the ceasefire was mainly responsible for the truce itself. But that is no ensurance that goodwill will suffice to carry the talks successfully to a political settlement.

The purpose of the truce is to establish a climate of confidence among the negotiators leading to the negotiations on the basic issues causing insurgency. The ceasefire agreement is significant in that it appears to have opened the way for the insurgents' participation in the parliamentary process.

Whether parliamentary participation is indeed the objective of the NDF no one can be sure. But the negotiating process is in fact already an exploration of the parliamentary route.

It is consistent with the Government's reconciliation policy and with the purpose of building a climate of confidence that further steps may be taken to make the option of parliamentary participation more appealing to the dissidents.

The most logical step would be to legalize the Communist Party of the Philippines through the abrogation of the Anti-subversion Act (Republic Act) 1700). This act outlaws the CPP.

The repeal of the act will broaden the area of liberalization on the approach to the insurgency problem without making the Government vulnerable to a communist take-over. The removal of the ban could not only be a gesture that the Government is determined to promote pluralism in the political process. It could also be a further cue that it is further encouraging the climate of confidence building.

RA 1700 forces dissidents to go underground and take the revolutionary option because there is no way for them to try the parliamentary path to power. [Words indistinct]. It is the means that is important. Armed struggle is not acceptable to most of our people.

the opening of the parliamentary arena to the insurgents provides an option that offers the possibility that they would depend less on armed struggle to achieve political objectives. This option is less socially costly.

There is nothing wrong or harmful if the insurgents compete with other parties for political power and influence through public debate of ideas. Let ideas be put to a test with the electorate--the source of the sovereign will of the people. It is the people who will accept or reject them. More harm has been done by driving underground ideas and those espousing them.

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CSO: 4200/210

LAND REFORM PROVISION SAID TO SERVE OLIGARCHY

HK100643 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Dec 86 p 18

[Article by Leonardo Q. Montemayor]

[Text] In a society dominated by a relatively few landlords and capitalists who comprise the so-called oligarchy, the government usually comes up with catchy slogans, beautiful policies and impressive programs which quickly become disappointing failures. But each new setback is immediately covered up with new slogans, new policies and new programs which, in their turn, also end up as failures.

The process goes on and on until, as in the case of Negros and other critical parts of the Philippines, the problems become so explosive that some of the oligarchs finally stand ready to lose some [preceding word in italics] fore they irretrievably lose all [preceding word in italics].

The proposed 1986 Constitution is a typical document which one could expect to be produced by an oligarch-dominated drafting body. On paper, it is beautiful and impressive. It has been described by a prominent person as "beautiful, exquisite and perfect."

Yet, like the other documents and programs conceived and formulated by the oligarchy, the proposed charter contains qualifications, conditions and saving clauses that negate its ostensible intentions and actually perpetuate the interests of the oligarchy. In so doing, these "loopholes" effectively block the nation's march to real progress.

Thus, Section 4 of Article VIII on Social Justice and Human Rights impressively reads as follows:

"Sec 4. The State shall, by law, undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farmworkers, who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till or, in the case of other farmworkers, to receive a just share of the fruits thereof. To this end, the State shall encourage and undertake the just distribution of all agricultural lands, subject to such priorities and reasonable retention limits as the Congress may prescribe, taking into account ecological, developmental, or equity considerations, and subject to the payment of just compensation. In determining retention limits, the State shall respect the rights of small landowners. The State shall further provide incentives for voluntary land-sharing. [no closing quotes as published]

The first sentence of Section 4 recognizes the right of farmers [word indistinct] [preceding word in italics] farmworkers, who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till. However, sezlonal [preceding word in italics] or nonpermanent [preceding word in italics] farmworkers will have no right to own the lands they cultivate. They will be entitled only to a just share of the fruits thereof.

In the sugar plantations alone, more than 80 percent of agricultural workers will be excluded from land ownership rights because seasonal farmworkers outnumber the permanent or regular ones by a ratio of four or five to one.

Moreover, in other lands such as coconut, very often different workers handle different and varying phases of the farm work. Most of them are not rehired every season for the same work, or are not rehired at all. This again would remove from a large number of farmworkers the right to own the land they work.

If we add to all the foregoing the right of the small landowners to retention limits and to just compensation based on the fair market value (which is prohibitively too high for most farmers and farmworkers), it will be fortunate if 2 percent or 3 percent of all farmworkers could actually become owners of the lands they till under the proposed Constitution.

Under the second sentence of Section 4, the distribution of all types of agricultural lands shall be subject to such "priorities" as Congress may prescribe, "taking into account ecological, developmental, or equity considerations."

While some Constitutional Commission members made certain comments during the commission's deliberations on these priorities and considerations, nothing seems to have been clearly defined and their comments have never been meant to be exhaustive. Hence, the terms "priorities" and "ecological, developmental, or equity considerations" are extremely flexible and even open-ended.

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CSO: 4200/210

REPORT ON MANILA TEACHERS STRIKE, DEMANDS

HK041538 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 4 Dec 86 pp 1, 7

[Text] Striking public school teachers in Manila yesterday rejected a compromise settlement on their pay demands and countered with threats to go on with their walkout [as printed] even until the start of the new registration of voters on Dec. 6.

"It's all or nothing," Federico Ricafort, President of the 17,000-strong Manila Public School Teachers Association (MPSTA), told Manila Mayor Mel Lopez during closed-door negotiations at city hall.

Lopez, roundly booed by some 2,000 teachers who picketed his office, pledged to pay at once the P7.4-million salary adjustment of 8,000 high school teachers. He also offered to release within the next two days P15 million for the teachers' 13th month pay.

The MPSTA negotiating panel, however, insisted that the city government shell out P29.6 million more for their cost of living and emergency allowances and equalization pay of teachers. Lopez said he can only settle their unpaid allowances running to P13.5 million on the second week of January at the earliest.

"Give us time to settle our obligations one by one," Lopez told the teachers. His plea was met with jeers by the striking mentors who abandoned their 270,000 students in 30 elementary and secondary schools.

Their picket snarled traffic for four hours along Taft Ave., United Nations Ave., Arroceros, Echague, and Ayala Streets.

"I understand your situation but I appeal for patience, to your sense of duty and unselfish service to the country by going back to classrooms," Education Minister Lourdes Quisumbing appealed to the teachers. His appeal fell on deaf ears. [as printed]

Ricafort said the teachers' demands are legal. He said the MPSTA wrote Budget Minister Alberto Romulo Nov. 12 regarding their unpaid wages and allowances. The ministry, took no action and sent back to MPSTA its letter.

Ricafort said the teachers will continue with their strike. He also said the teachers will boycott the new registration of voters starting Dec. 6 if the teachers' demands are not met by then.

Comelec [Commission on Elections] Commissioner Haydee Yorac voiced hopes the teachers will see the registration of voters an entirely different thing from their pay demands.

"I appeal to them to look at the registration of voters as entirely divorced from their conditions as teachers," she said.

She called upon the teachers to help establish democratic process through their voluntary participation in the coming electoral exercise.

Yorac, however, said the Comelec had already come up with fallback positions should Manila public school teachers refuse to man the registration center.

She said private school teachers and civic-minded citizens can be tapped for the new registration of voters on Dec. 6.

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CSO: 4200/210

OFFICIAL CITES STRIKES STATISTICS OF COUNTRY

HK081546 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Dec 86 p 2

[Text] Among all members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), none is as "strike-plagued" as the Philippines, Labor Deputy Minister for Industrial Relations Franklin M. Drilon said over the weekend.

Addressing the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines in Cebu City, Drilon said that as of Nov. 30 a total of 557 strikes had been declared, nearly 57 percent more than the number of the whole of 1985 and more than 96 percent over that of 1984.

Observing that no other ASEAN country has such a high figure, Drilon said, "You will likewise note that none (in ASEAN) has a negative growth rate as ours.

I have no statistics to prove that the two factors are significantly correlated, but common sense suggests that they are somehow affecting each other."

The labor deputy minister, who is reportedly being considered as a replacement for Labor Minister Augusto S. Sanchez in the ongoing Cabinet revamp, also discussed the economic implications of the rash of strikes.

Drilon said that it used to be pointed out that strikes were not the problem, but were "mere symptoms" of inherent contradictions in the industrial relations system. "While I retain the notion that should be discovered and uprooted," he said, "we must begin to realize that the current level of strikes in the country is approaching a point that could not but be perceived as a problem in itself."

He added that "tremendous pressure" brought about by the strikes is "now weakening the basic fabric of industrial relations in the Philippines."

"Wildcat and illegal strikes which last for several months compound our problem and are not helping anyone, but are in fact detrimental to the interest of workers because many companies are forced to close permanently out of fear that law and order has completely broken down," he said.

As a result of the increase in problems caused by strikes, Drilon said, even the performance of the Ministry of Labor and Employment is beginning to suffer. Of the total strike cases handled by the ministry this year, 501 have been disposed of so far, he said, adding that this figure is 33 percent higher than the strikes disposed of during the same period last year.

However, the rate of settlement of strikes this year is only 87.5 percent compared to 93.2 percent last year.

Drilon attributed the "alarming upsurge" in strikes in the past nine months to two factors: the "economic squeeze" experienced by both workers and employers, and the "period of adjustment" after the downfall of the previous regime during which workers "tested the limits of their freedoms."

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CSO: 4200/210

PALAY PRODUCTION INCREASES 11 PERCENT

HK091513 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 9 Dec 86 p 2

["Economic indicator" column: "Palay Production Rises 11 Percent"]

[Text] A total of 181.94 million cavans of palay were harvested in crop year 1986 (ended in June), up 10.94 percent from the 164 million cavans in crop year 1985 and 16.02 percent from 156.82 million cavans in crop year 1984, according to latest data from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Palay production area for crop year 1986 was 3.403 million hectares, up 5.65 percent from 3.221 million hectares in the previous crop year. For every hectare planted to palay, yield reached 53.5 cavans compared to 50.9 cavans in crop year 1985.

Major palay producing regions increased output: Central Luzon by 7.58 percent from 28.36 million cavans in crop year 1985 to 30.51 million, Cagayan Valley 12.78 percent from 20.79 million to 23.44 million, Western Visayas 8.91 percent from 20.60 million to 22.44 million, Ilocos region 15.46 percent from 15.10 million to 17.44 million, Central Mindanao 14.81 percent from 13.43 million to 15.41 million, and the Southern Tagalog 7.60 percent from 18.32 million to 19.72 million.

Only Bicol recorded a drop, 2.82 percent to 13.66 million cavans from 14.06 million. Natural calamities hit the region during the crop year.

Palay Production, Area Harvested and Yield Per Hectare, by Region
Crop years 1985 and 1986
(Volume of production in thousand cavans; area harvested in
thousand hectares)

	Production (Sacks of 50 kg)		Area Harvested (Hectare)		Yield per Hectare	
	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985
Ilocos	17,435	15,100	342	323	51.0	46.7
Cagayan Valley	23,442	20,786	403	373	58.1	55.8
Central Luzon	30,507	28,358	481	450	63.4	63.0
Southern Tagalog	19,715	18,323	374	367	52.7	50.0
Bicol	13,662	14,058	332	334	41.2	42.1
Western Visayas	22,438	20,402	445	448	50.4	46.0
Central Visayas	2,964	2,394	102	94	28.9	27.7
Eastern Visayas	9,389	7,976	228	206	41.2	38.8
Western Mindanao	7,067	6,578	142	138	49.8	47.6
Northern Mindanao	6,842	5,358	116	106	59.2	50.4
Southern Mindanao	13,064	10,843	197	174	66.5	62.3
Central Mindanao	15,414	13,426	241	208	64.0	64.5
Total	181,939	164,002	3,403	3,221	53.5	50.9

Source: Bureau of Agricultural Economic

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CSO: 4200/210

COCONUT OIL EXPORTS INCOME FALLS

HK051433 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Dec 86 p 3

["Economic Indicator" column: "Coco Oil Export Income Falls"]

[Text] Depressed world market prices caused foreign exchange earnings from refined coconut oil exports to drop to \$4,926,989 for the January-August period, down 70.66 percent from a year-ago level of \$16,795,145, according to the National Census and Statistics Office Data.

The export volume likewise dropped 34.50 percent to 15,765,246 kilos from 24,069,139 kilos.

Stiff competition from vegetable oil substitutes resulted in a glut in the world fats and oil market. World stocks reportedly doubled from a year ago, thereby pulling down prices to historically low levels.

In addition the United States, which absorbed about 84 percent of Philippine exports of refined coconut oil in 1985, cut its purchases this year by nearly 50 percent.

Bigger demand for Philippine coconut oil from China, Taiwan, and Japan, coupled with the new markets opened in West Germany, South Korea and the Pacific Trust Territories, failed to offset the drop in imports by the US and nonimportation by Canada.

Refined Coconut Oil Exports
January to August 1985 & 1986

Country of destination	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Export value</u>	
	(kilos)		(in US dollars)	
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1985</u>
United States	10,152,000	20,167,650	3,046,275	13,502,520
West Germany	200	--	591	--
China	1,016,000	50,000	262,500	46,612
South Korea	49,950	--	47,203	--
Taiwan	1,015,348	419,720	320,515	336,924
Japan	2,949,052	2,923,625	1,062,205	2,397,665
Trust territories	582,696	--	187,700	--
Canada	--	508,144	--	511,424
Total	15,765,246	24,069,139	4,926,989	16,795,145

Source: National Census & Statistics Office

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BRIEFS

TAX COLLECTION LEGALITY--Communist insurgents imposing so-called revolutionary taxes on civilians during the 60-day cease-fire period will be arrested. Defense Minister Rafael Ileta said this yesterday [4 December] at a meeting with newsmen in a Quezon City restaurant. Ileta said the collection of taxes by the NPA is illegal and is considered a violation of the cease-fire agreement signed on November 27. He said that any rebels engaged in taxing businessmen and other individuals to support their revolutionary struggle will be arrested by the police or the military. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 4 Dec 86] /8309

UPHOLDING WORKERS' RIGHTS--President Aquino said yesterday the Government was faced with the "dilemma of upholding the workers' rights and welfare as against the need to attract and generate more investment, both local and foreign, to prime pump our moribund economy." In a message read for her by Labor Minister Augusto S. Sanchez at the Labor Ministry's 53d anniversary ceremonies, the President said "never again will this government allow a business to operate at the expense of the legal rights and welfare of the Filipino working man, just as we will not allow irresponsible elements of the labor movement to derail the inevitable economic recovery of this country." The Government, through the Labor Ministry, will "enforce and uphold the law on the rights and benefits of the working man whenever and wherever these rights or benefits are violated," she said. At the same time, she warned that the Government will also apply sanctions against irresponsible unionism every time it rears its ugly head to discourage legitimate investment and operation of responsible business enterprises. [Text] [Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 9 Dec 86 p 6] /8309

COMELEC WARNS OICS--Commission on Elections [Comelec] chairman Ramon Felipe Jr yesterday [7 December] warned all officers-in-charge of local governments to stay off registration places because they are not deputized by the Comelec. Felipe issued the warning following numerous reports from Makati that local officials of the country's premier town were said to be lording it over some of the town's precincts. Officers-in-charge of local government (?units) as well as barangay leaders are not deputized by the Comelec, so they have no right to enter precincts and arrest anybody, Felipe said, adding that this prerogative is reserved only for the Comelec and election inspectors. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 7 Dec 86] /8309

GUNBOAT PRODUCTION—Cavite City--The Philippine Navy will start building next year modern gunboats with the technical assistance of the United States. Addressing the 39th anniversary of the Naval Support Command (Nascom) here yesterday, Navy flag officer-in-command Commodore Tagumpay R. Jardiniano said the five-year program will cost the government some P2 billion. Capt. Juanito G. Cortez, Nascom chief, will supervise the construction of these gunboats together with American experts in shipbuilding. Jardiniano said \$60 million or about P1.2 billion will be allocated in the next five years for the building of highly mobile patrol craft fast (PCF). Another \$40 million (P800 million) will be allocated for the refitting and maintenance of all Navy ships, Jardiniano added. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 5 Dec 86 p 18] /8309

CSO: 4200/210

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VODK ON SIGNIFICANCE OF UPROOTING SRV FORCES

BK020448 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
1 Dec 86

[Station commentary: "Attacking the Vietnamese Enemy's Village and Commune Administrative Authorities Is Bleeding the Vietnamese in Every Field"]

[Text] In implementing the new 5-point fighting method, our National Army has paid most of its attention to the first method, that is attacking and dismantling the Vietnamese enemy's village and commune administrative authorities. This is strategically significant because it cuts at the root and depletes every source of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. The Vietnamese are in a situation in which they cannot deploy their troops everywhere in Cambodia. They cannot control all the villages and communes scattered all over the country. Therefore, our National Army has the ability to attack Vietnamese commune and village administrative networks. And we are getting better and better at doing this.

In the past eighth rainy season and at the beginning of this ninth dry season, our National Army has increased its activities to attack and dismantle the Vietnamese enemy's village and commune administrative authorities everywhere throughout the country, on the first, second, and third groups of battlefields. In terms of statistics, last rainy season, we repeatedly attacked and dismantled Vietnamese administrative authorities in 383 communes and liberated 2,050 villages. In the two months of this dry season, from October to November, we attacked and dismantled Vietnamese administrative networks in 50 communes and 511 villages and liberated 250 villages.

This kind of attack to dismantle Vietnamese commune and village administrative networks is significant in many ways. Firstly, it undercuts an important source of Vietnamese fighting forces. The Vietnamese enemy uses these commune and village apparatuses to recruit and forcibly round up our people to serve in the Army and Vietnamese military tasks, such as in transport, building roads and barracks, and clearing forests. Therefore, our attacks to dismantle these administrative networks have prevented the Vietnamese enemy from drafting and rounding up our people at will.

Secondly, these attacks undercut the Vietnamese enemy's economic and food supplies and prevent the Vietnamese from plundering our people's paddy and rice to feed their aggressor troops at will. Furthermore, these attacks also free our people economically. They enable our people to work and feed themselves rather than starve under the Vietnamese enemy's cruel administration.

Thirdly, these attacks prevent the Vietnamese from forcing our people to serve as spies and rounding them up for forced labor. Politically, these attacks also prevent the Vietnamese from spreading their ideology and their stinking Indochinese federation doctrine. They also destroy the Vietnamese economically and socially. This way, the Vietnamese cannot levy all kinds of taxes from our people. Culturally, these attacks have prevented the Vietnamese from spreading Vietnamese culture, traditions, habits, and corruption.

Fourthly, this is a liberation in many ways for our people. It frees our people, Cambodian soldiers, militiamen, and administrative personnel. Physically, these attacks free our people from Vietnamese oppression, taxes, and draft. Politically and culturally, our people are freed from intoxicating Vietnamese propaganda thus allowing them to build schools to educate their children according to national culture, traditions, and customs, and promote patriotic spirit.

Fifthly, these attacks also free forces which will further strengthen and expand the 3-element forces.

Thus, our active and numerous attacks to dismantle Vietnamese village and commune authorities throughout the country are surrounding the Vietnamese and cutting off their roots in Cambodia. This will bleed and weaken the Vietnamese gradually. As for us, the more we attack the Vietnamese village and commune administrative machinery, the stronger we get, enabling us to further build, strengthen, and expand our forces. This has brought about a significant change in the military situation and advanced our struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

Firmly grasping the significance of these attacks, our National Army is determined to continue implementing our new 5-point fighting method, particularly attacking and dismantling village and commune administrative networks more vigorously, more actively, and more often to bog the Vietnamese down even further to the point that they are forced to withdraw their forces from Cambodia in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the eight UN General Assembly sessions and the CGDK's 8-point peace proposal.

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CSO: 4212/12

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VODK COMMENTARY ON OPPOSITION TO VIETNAMESE AGGRESSION

BK040554 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
3 Dec 86

[Station commentary: "Nationalist Cambodian Soldiers Forced To Serve the Vietnamese Continue to Unite, Revolt Against, and Desert the Vietnamese on Every Battlefield Throughout the Country"]

[Text] In the past rainy season, many nationalist Cambodian soldiers forced to serve the Vietnamese united, revolted against, and deserted the Vietnamese. At the beginning of the ninth dry season, this movement is still going strong on every battlefield.

According to preliminary statistics from various battlefields throughout the country, in a period of one month--from the end of October to the end of November--more than 400 nationalist Cambodian soldiers deserted for home or defected to the Democratic Kampuchean National Army. A number of these compatriots revolted and killed Vietnamese enemy soldiers before deserting; others carried out sabotage activities to destroy war materiel depots and important strategic positions of the Vietnamese before fleeing home or joining our National Army. Some others simply deserted the Vietnamese aggressors' ranks in their refusal to serve the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia.

On 3 November, a company of nationalist Cambodian soldiers posted at Stoeng Thmei village, Anhchanh Rong commune, Baribo District, in Kompong Chhnang Province, revolted, killing 10 and wounding a number of Vietnamese soldiers, and then fled home taking with them all their weapons. On 5 November, a platoon of nationalist Cambodian soldiers posted at O Ta Hoy position on Route 4 ambushed and destroyed a Vietnamese vehicle, killing or wounding six Vietnamese soldiers, and fled home. On 3 November, all 110 nationalist Cambodian soldiers forced to undergo military training in Pursat fled home. Between 18 and 20 November, 150 nationalist Cambodian soldiers posted on Peam Ta battlefield deserted for home. Apart from this, many other nationalist Cambodian soldiers secretly attacked the Vietnamese enemy and are hiding among the Vietnamese to continue their activities.

So, the movement of Cambodian soldiers forced to serve the Vietnamese revolting and deserting the Vietnamese is still going on everywhere in the country. And the Vietnamese enemy aggressors cannot do anything to stop this. These revolts and mutinies have taken some new forms such as ambushing Vietnamese vehicles, lobbing grenades, and using mines to destroy Vietnamese war materiel depots. Apart from this, these Cambodian soldiers are plundering or rounding up our people by courageously and valiantly firing on the Vietnamese soldiers.

All this shows that the anger of Cambodian soldiers with the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators is raging and that the Vietnamese cannot snub it out. Our compatriots realize more clearly now that they should not remain idle and let the Vietnamese enemy aggressors exterminate our race. At a time when our people and race face such grave dangers, our compatriot realize that they should unite and revolt against the enemies to defend our nation and race, or at least prevent the enemies, that is the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, from using them as tools to kill our nation and exterminate the Cambodian race. This is a sacred slogan which is being spread throughout our beloved Cambodian fatherland and which is resounding in the ear and heart of all Cambodian soldiers.

It is this burning anger against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and this lofty awakening spirit that have fuelled the movement of compatriot Cambodian soldiers deserting and revolting against the Vietnamese. This movement is an effective contribution to the current struggle to defend and safeguard our Cambodian nation and race against the Vietnamese enemy. Last dry season, due to the vigorous and numerous revolts and mutinies of Cambodian soldiers everywhere and in combination with the increasingly active attacks by our National Army and people throughout the country, the Vietnamese plan to launch major offensives in the past eighth dry season was completely thwarted. In this dry season, our people will continue their nationalist activities more vigorously and more actively to contribute to those of our National Army and people to smash every Vietnamese plan to attack us and pressure the Vietnamese to the point that they can no longer endure it and are forced to flee from our beloved fatherland.

Only unity and cooperation in fighting against the Vietnamese will enable our people and the Cambodian nation and race to survive, and survive as an independent and dignified nation on the same level with other countries the world over. This is the sacred aspiration of our entire Cambodian nation and people.

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CSO: 4212/12

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

TWO SRV BATTALIONS ATTACKED IN BATTAMBANG

BK060422 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
5 Dec 86

[Text] On 1 December, the Vietnamese enemies sent a battalion of their soldiers, including those from the 9th Division and the A-5 special unit, from Channaom commune to attack our National Army combatants at Dannak Preah Ang on Sisophon battlefield [Battambang Province], but they were ambushed and forced to turn back by our National Army combatants in cooperation with the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers. We killed 35 Vietnamese soldiers, including 1 battalion commander and 2 company commanders, and wounded 41 others for a total of 76. We destroyed 26 assorted weapons and some war materiel and seized 19 assorted weapons--1 DK-82, 14 AK's, 3 RPD's, 1 B-41, 10 DK-82 shells, 15 B-41 rockets, 300 rounds of AK ammunition, 50 rucksacks, 15 hammocks, and some war materiel.

On 2 December, the Vietnamese enemies sent a battalion of soldiers from Samraong commune to attack us at Koup Chas on Sisophon battlefield, but this battalion was ambushed and pushed back by our National Army and the local people and patriotic Cambodian soldiers. We killed 30 Vietnamese soldiers, including 2 company commanders and 5 platoon commanders, and wounded 53 others for a total of 83 enemy casualties. We destroyed 1 80-mm mortar, 1 12.8-mm gun, 3 RPD's, 2 AK's, and some war materiel and seized 25 assorted weapons, including 19 AK's, 4 RPD's, and 2 B-40's, 40 rucksacks, and some war materiel.

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CSO: 4212/12

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

VONADK REPORTS VIETNAMESE CASUALTIES IN NOVEMBER

BK070726 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in
Cambodian 2315 GMT 6 Dec 86

[Report on Vietnamese casualties in November 1986]

[Text] 1. Koh Kong-Kompong Som battlefield: 120 Vietnamese soldiers
killed and 134 wounded totaling 254; and 6 village, 1 commune, and 1 town
administrative network dismantled.

2. Leach-Peam Ta battlefield: 50 killed and 48 wounded totaling 98; and
3 village administrative networks dismantled.

3. Samlot battlefield: 122 killed and 149 wounded totaling 271; and 8 village
and 1 commune administrative network dismantled.

4. Pailin battlefield: 148 killed and 201 wounded totaling 349.

5. South Sisophon battlefield: 70 killed and 85 wounded totaling 155.

6. North Sisophon: 188 killed and 227 wounded totaling 415; and 28 village
and 3 commune administrative networks dismantled.

7. Battambang and Battambang area battlefield: 58 killed and 79 wounded
totaling 137; and 26 village and 1 commune administrative network dismantled.

8. Siem Reap-Route 6 battlefield: 90 killed and 81 wounded totaling 171;
and 57 villages, 4 commune administrative networks dismantled.

9. Kompong Thom-Kompong Cham battlefield: 96 killed and 126 wounded
totaling 222; and 138 village and 9 commune administrative networks dis-
mantled.

10. Moung-Pursat battlefield: 108 killed and 110 wounded totaling 218; and
34 village and 2 commune administrative networks dismantled.

11. Kompong Chhnang battlefield: 60 killed and 48 wounded totaling 108; and
34 village and 1 commune administrative network dismantled.

12. Phnom Penh and Phnom Penh area battlefield: 84 killed and 60 wounded totaling 144; and 67 village and 3 commune administrative networks dismantled.

13. Southwestern region battlefield: 64 killed and 89 wounded totaling 153; and 23 village and 1 commune administrative network dismantled.

14. Northeast-eastern region battlefield: 20 killed and 10 wounded totaling 30; and 3 village and 1 commune administrative network dismantled.

In sum, in November, we killed 1,278 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 1,447 others for a total of 2,725 casualties; and dispersed or dismantled 427 village, 26 commune, and 1 town administrative networks.

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COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SIEM REAP, BATTAMBANG ROCKET ATTACKS--On 29 November, our National Army fired six 107-mm rockets, hitting the Vietnamese enemy's political school in Siem Reap town; killing five Vietnamese, including a political school administrator; and destroying four school buildings and some war materiel. This attack caused confusion in Siem Reap town and forced the Vietnamese enemy to impose constant curfew. On 1 December, our National Army fired four 107-mm rockets on the Vietnamese enemy's 479th command in Chup, Preah Net Preah District, Battambang Province, killing two and wounding two, and destroying two buildings in the political school and two buildings in the police school. [From the "Report from various battlefields" feature] [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 7 Dec 86 BK] /9738

ATTACKS NEAR PHNOM PENH--On 21 November, our National Army, in cooperation with people and nationalist Cambodian soldiers forced to serve the Vietnamese, launched an attack against the Vietnamese enemy at Stoeng Meanchey, adjoining Phnom Penh. We killed five Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot, including a captain and a sublieutenant, wounded four others, and destroyed some war materiel. On 20 November, in cooperation with people and nationalist Cambodian soldiers forced to serve the Vietnamese, our National Army launched a commando attack against the Vietnamese enemy at Chumpu Voan, west of Pochentong international airport. We killed two Vietnamese soldiers and wounded one. [From "Report from various battlefields" feature] [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 3 Dec 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4212/12

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BOU THANG GREETES LAO COUNTERPART ON NATIONAL DAY

BK030357 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] On the 11th anniversary of the LPDR National Day, Comrad Bou Thang, PRK national defense minister, sent a message to Comrade General Khantai Siphandon, national defense minister of the LPDR. The message says in substance:

Dear Comrade Minister: On the 11th anniversary of the LPDR National Day, on behalf of cadres and combatants of the KPRAF and in my own name, we would like to express our congratulations with most profound revolutionary and fraternal sentiments and wishes to the comrade minister and cadres and combatants of the fraternal Lao People's Army. Under the correct and clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP, the Lao Army and people have courageously and valiantly struggled with lofty sacrifices against old and new colonialists, royalists, and imperialists; won a great historic victory on 2 December 1975; and founded the LPDR, which brought independence, freedom, and happiness to the people.

We highly appreciate the revolutionary achievements of the Lao Army and people in the cause of defending and building a socialist fatherland in the past 11 years. The precious victories of the Lao Army and people are an important contribution to the three Indochinese countries in the struggle for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

We wish that the special militant solidarity and close cooperation between our two countries be strengthened and last forever. Once again, on behalf of cadres and combatants of the KPRAF and in my own name, we wish the comrade minister, and through you, good health, energy, and greater successes to cadres and combatants of the fraternal Lao People's Army in every task assigned by the LPRP's Fourth Congress. Please receive our high consideration.

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BOU THANG GREETES RAUL CASTRO ON CUBAN ARMY DAY

BK030937 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Greetings message from PRK Defense Minister Bou Thang to Cuba's Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces General Raul Castro Ruz on Cuban Army Day--date not given]

[Text] Dear Comrade Minister, on the 30th founding anniversary of the fraternal Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, on behalf of the cadres and combatants of the entire KPRAF and in my own name, I would like to express boundless joy and extend to you and to the fraternal cadres and combatants of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces our warmest and most cordial congratulations.

In the past 30 years, under the correct and wise leadership of the Cuban Communist Party, the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces and people won great, resounding victories of historic significance leading to the founding of the Republic of Cuba, the first socialist state in Central America, which is a sign of the inevitable collapse of the colonialist system in the world and of all interventionist policies of the Yankee imperialists in Central America. This great, historic victory has created favorable conditions for the peoples in Central America to rise up in struggle for independence, freedom, and socialism. It has particularly created firm strategic alliances for the revolution in Central America.

The Cambodian people and the KPRAF are proud of and beg to learn from the exemplary heroism of the fraternal Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces who have strengthened the 2 December 1959 spirit at the Moncada Barracks and continued to frustrate all of the enemy maneuvers aimed to reverse the 1 January 1959 great victory in the Republic of Cuba.

I also wish the Comrade Minister and the whole Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces the best of health, strength, and successes in implementing all tasks set forth by the Third Congress of the Cuban Communist Party.

Please, Comrade Minister, accept my sincere regards.

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CSO: 4212/12

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

HENG SAMRIN, HUN SEN GREETES KAYSONE ON BIRTHDAY

BK040843 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, and Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PRK, recently sent a message to Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, greeting him on his 66th anniversary.

The message reads: We extend to you our best wishes. May you enjoy the best of health, a long life, successes in your noble task. We highly appreciate the precious contributions you have made for the sake of the LPRP and the fraternal Lao people as well as to the strengthening and progress of the revolution and socialism of the three Indochinese countries.

We firmly believe that under your wise and skillful leadership, the fraternal Lao people will win greater successes in their national reconstruction and defense efforts and in consolidating the traditional militant solidarity between the Lao and Cambodian peoples and among the three fraternal Indochinese peoples, which is a vital factor for the victory of the three countries' revolution. In particular, the success of the Fourth LPRP Congress is of immense significance for the heightening of the LPDR's prestige both at home and on the international stage in contributing to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, security, stability, and cooperation.

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CSO: 4212/12

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

RADIO CHIEF KIM YIN GREETED BY SRV COUNTERPART

BK041015 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Tran Lam, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and chairman of the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission, sent a greetings message to Comrade Kim Yin, member of the KPRP Central Committee and director general of the Radio Voice of the Cambodian People, on the 8th founding anniversary of the Radio Voice of the Cambodian People and the 3d anniversary of the Cambodian Television Station.

The message stressed: On the 8th anniversary of the birth of the Radio Voice of the Cambodian People and the 3d anniversary of the birth of the Cambodian Television Station, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the esteemed and beloved comrade director general and to the cadres, workers, and personnel of the Cambodian Radio and Television. I am very glad to see that in the past eight years, you and the other comrades and friends have created great achievements in the field of radio and television broadcasting. Within a very short time, you have successfully built and properly managed the Cambodian radio and television, ensuring the implementation of all policies entrusted upon you by the party and state and gradually meeting the needs and aspirations of the people. All of these results are made possible thanks to the wise and correct leadership of the KPRP and government of the PRK [words indistinct] and the active contribution of the cadres, employees, and workers of the General Directorate of the Radio Voice of the Cambodian People.

On behalf of the cadres, workers, and personnel working under the Vietnam Radio and Television, I would like to pledge once again to you that we will do our best to further expand cooperation between our two sectors so that we will become more effective and stronger in the future.

In the spirit of good friends whose solidarity in shoulder-to-shoulder combat goes back far into the past [words indistinct] radio and television broadcasting between our two countries will surely be further strengthened and developed.

I wish you successes and sincerely greet your traditional days.

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CSO: 4212/12

RADIO REPORTS MEETING TO MARK KUFNCD ANNIVERSARY

BK020604 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 2 Dec 86

[Text] On the morning of 2 December at the Chattomuk conference hall, the Committee for Organizing National Festivals organized a solemn meeting to mark the KUFNCD's eighth founding anniversary. Presiding over the meeting were, among others, Comrade Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Chan Seng, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Central Committee's Control Commission; Comrade Nguon Nhel, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee and secretary of the Phnom Penh Provisional Party Committee; Comrade Yos Son, member of the KPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Central Committee's Foreign Relations Commission; Comrade Khoy Khunhuor, member of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Central Committee's Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Koy Buntha, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee, deputy defense minister, and chief of the KPRAF general staff. Also attending the meeting were comrade members of the Party Central Committee; comrade ministers and deputy ministers; director generals, deputy director generals; cadres, party members, core groups; representatives of mass organizations, the clergy, young pioneers; and a multitude of ethnic minorities. Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of various friendly countries accredited to Cambodia were also present.

Speaking at the meeting, Comrade Mat Ly pointed out the historic significance of the day, 2 December, when the United Front for National Salvation of Cambodia--currently the KUFNCD--was founded, rallied all strata of Cambodian people to revolt against and topple the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan genocidal regime, lackey of the Beijing Chinese expansionists, and achieved victory on 7 January 1979. The comrade expressed profound gratitude to the KPRAF and the Vietnamese Volunteer Army, which have closely cooperated, made sacrifice in flesh and blood for the Cambodian revolutionary cause, and opened a new era for the Cambodian revolution to save the people from the danger of racial extermination.

Finally, Comrade Mat Ly appealed to members of the meeting to unite in the struggle to successfully implement every resolution of the party's fifth congress.

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PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

ROUNDUP OF THAI VIOLATIONS IN MONTH ENDING 22 NOVEMBER

BK041055 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] During the month ending on 22 November 1986, the Thai stepped up shelling of Cambodian territory and used planes to conduct reconnaissance flights over areas along the Cambodian-Thai border in support of the traitorous reactionary Khmer groups enabling them to infiltrate Cambodian territory for subversive purposes,

Most noteworthy was the fact that the Thai authorities sent war materiel, including artillery and tanks, and infantry troops to intrude into the areas around Hills 537 and 310, the Kingkok Mountain, the area north of Malai Mountain, Khau Phlu, and the Klongyai area. Moreover, the Thai fired a daily barrage of 100-250 artillery shells into Cambodian territory at Hills 1,271, 453, and 789, Phnum Khcho, and the Route 56 terminal.

During this period, Thai reconnaissance aircraft of the L-19, A-37, F-5, and HU-1A types violated Cambodian airspace on 65 occasions from 1 to 12 km deep inside Cambodian territory over Anlung Veng, O Smach, O Bok, Yeang Dangcum, Poipet, Kamrieng, Pailin, Hill 971, Phnum Khcho, and the Route 56 terminal.

In particular, many Thai ships made 665 illegal entries from 10 to 20 nautical miles inside Cambodian waters in the vicinity of Kaoh Kong, Kaoh Tang, and Kaoh Smach.

Faced with these violations by the Thai, our Cambodian Border Guards continued to maintain their bravery by ensuring brilliant success in protecting every square inch of the fatherland. For instance, they blocked all enemy passages and supply lines and launched sweep operations on various fronts, dispersing the enemy forces and causing heavy losses to them. Among the most outstanding units were the "Determined To Win" Division, the "Victory" Division, and the "Brave" Division. In this period, we launched 193 operations against the enemy, putting out of action 868 enemy soldiers, including 279 killed on the spot, 199 captured, 73 wounded, and 317 forced to surrender or voluntarily returned to the fold. We seized 352 assorted weapons, 105 mines, 583 shells, and a large quantity of war materiel.

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C SO: 4212/12

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FROM 1 TO 7 DECEMBER

BK080959 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media monitored by Bangkok Bureau carried the following reports on agricultural developments during the reporting period 1-7 December:

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1119 GMT on 4 December reports that the mechanization department under the Ministry of Agriculture recently distributed 287 Soviet-made tractors of MCZ-80 and UMZ-611 types to Phnom Penh City and various provinces throughout the country to help the peasants there till their land for next year's rice cropping. Since 1981, the department has provided 997 tractors to different cities and provinces across the country, including 300 to Battambang Province. During the last rainy season, Cambodian peasants mechanically plowed 160,600 hectares of rice fields; they now plan to turn up 267,400 hectares in the forthcoming monsoon. The department itself plans to plow 41,000 hectares of land for the peasants in the provinces of Takeo, Prey Veng, and Kompong Thom, and Kompong Som City. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0406 GMT on 4 December reports that during October, the veterinary service of Phnom Penh City, the provinces of Kandal, Kompong Cham, Kompong Chhnang, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, and Pursat, and Stung Treng, and Kompong Som City vaccinated a total of more than 62,200 oxen and buffaloes against epizootic diseases.

Battambang Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1059 GMT on 6 December reports that as the monsoon season cropping ended, peasants in this province prepared 1,500 hectares for dry-season rice cropping. The provincial agricultural service has supplied the peasants with 50 metric tons of chemical fertilizer in addition to the organic fertilizer gathered by themselves. In the 1985-86 dry season, the peasants harvested rice on 1,440 hectares with an average yield of 2 metric tons per hectare, doubling that of the corresponding period last year. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0420 GMT on 1 December says that by the end of October, peasants in Ratanamondol District had covered 1,400 hectares with rice, 260 hectares with cotton, and 442 hectares with jute.

Kandal Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1108 GMT on 1 December reports that in this dry season, peasants in Leuk Dek District plan to cover 3,000 hectares of land with subsidiary food and industrial crops. Within 3 weeks, ending on 13 November, they planted 30 hectares with manioc, 20 hectares with beans, 500 beds of tobacco seedlings, and tilled 200 hectares out of the

planned area. Last year, they put nearly 3,000 hectares under such crops, including 2,000 hectares of corn. In the 1986-87 dry season rice cropping, peasants in this district plan to put 3,000 hectares under rice, including 1,000 hectares of the IR-36 and IR-42 varieties. As the river water subsided within the first 2 weeks of November, the peasants plowed 200 hectares, weeded 300 hectares of land, sowed rice seeds on 50 hectares, and transplanted 80 hectares with the IR-36 rice variety. According to Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1148 GMT on 7 December, peasants in Leuk Dek District have so far sold to the state 23,000 metric tons of surplus corn and paddy. Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1103 GMT on 7 December says that in the 6 weeks ending 31 October, peasants in Lvea Em District sold to the state 1,680 metric tons of corn, increasing their target twofold and the 1985 plan by 25 percent. This year, the district planted corn on 1,460 hectares with a yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 1 December notes that by mid-November, peasants in Ponhea Loe District had sowed nearly 70 hectares of dry-season rice. They plan to grow 3,500 hectares of dry-season rice this year.

Kompong Cham Province: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1150 GMT on 3 December reports that during the first half of November, peasants in this province sold the state nearly 5,300 metric tons of farm products, including 4,400 metric tons of soy beans, or 63 percent of their annual plan. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0540 GMT on 5 December says that in October, peasants in this province sold to the state 1,000 metric tons of corn and more than 300 metric tons of beans and sesame. Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1103 GMT on 7 December reports that so far the 18 trade services of Prey Chhor District have bought from the local peasants 540 metric tons of soy beans, 40 metric tons of green beans, and 1 metric ton of red corn. Moreover, the peasants are expected to sell 2,180 metric tons of their surplus rice and a quantity of industrial crops. Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1147 GMT on 7 December reports that by the end of November, peasants in Ponhea Krek District had sold to the state nearly 800 metric tons of farm products, including 470 metric tons of beans and 80 metric tons of soy beans. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 7 December reports that between 24 October and 18 November, the trade service of Chamka Leu District had bought more than 2,650 metric tons of mung beans from the peasants.

Kompong Chhnang Province Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 1 December reports that the local veterinary service of Kompong Leng District vaccinated 1,500 oxen, 21,00 buffaloes, and more than 1,800 hogs against various diseases in October.

Kompong Som City: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1108 GMT on 1 December reports that so far this year, peasants in Prey Nop District have reclaimed 460 hectares of waste land.

Kompong Speu Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 5 December reports that during the last monsoon, peasants of Beanteay Meas District transplanted more than 21,000 hectares of various types of rice or 92 percent of the plan, and planted nearly 860 hectares of short-term subsidiary food crops and more than 170 hectares of industrial crops.

Kompong Thom Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 6 December reports that by 20 November, the local trade service had bought more than 3,300 metric tons of surplus paddy from the peasants.

Kratie Province: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 1139 GMT on 4 December reports that by the end of October, peasants in this province had transplanted more than 1,300 hectares of rice of the 6,400 hectares earmarked for this dry season. Kratie District took the lead in this campaign with 558 hectares. Peasants in this province also covered more than 900 hectares with subsidiary food crops.

Prey Veng Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 7 December reports that by November, peasants in Kamchay Mea District had planted nearly 20 hectares of dry-season rice and more than 400 hectares of potatoes, more than 60 hectares of mung beans, more than 10 hectares of sugarcane, and nearly 60 hectares of corn.

Pursat Province: In an interview with a radio correspondent carried by Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 7 December, Prum Kin, Provincial Party Committee, said that in the agricultural field this year, peasants planted 53,593 hectares of rice or more than 71 percent of the plan. They have so far planted more than 200 hectares of flood-receding rice.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1059 GMT on 6 December reports that by the end of November, peasants in Siem Reap District had harvested short-term and dibbling rice on 700 hectares. Meanwhile, they paid attention to the second rice crop of the year, transplanting dry-season rice on 20 hectares, including 150 hectares of IR-36 variety. In the last monsoon rice cropping, the peasants put only 11,400 hectares under different types of rice or 94 percent of their target. In the monsoon rice cropping, peasants in Banteay Ampil District transplanted rice on 3,840 hectares or 85 percent of the plan, the same SPK report says. They also put more than 330 hectares under subsidiary food crops such as corn, manioc, sweet potato, beans, and vegetables. They are now busy harvesting the short-term and dibbling rice. Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1102 GMT on 2 December reports that Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province plans to catch 9,500 metric tons of fish and turn out 1,020 metric tons of salted fish, 1,120 metric tons of fish cheese, 130 metric tons of smoked fish, 50 metric tons of dried fish, and 55,000 liters of fish sauce. Last year, this province with a catch of 9,041 metric tons of fish, a tenfold increase over the plan, was one of the leading provinces in this domain after Kandal, Kratie, Prey Veng, Kompong Cham, and Stung Treng. Last year, the whole country caught 64,000 metric tons of fish.

Stung Treng Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 4 December reports that in 1986 monsoon, more than 6,800 hectares of various types of rice were transplanted and more than 1,000 hectares of subsidiary food crops planted. Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1108 GMT on 3 December reports that so far this year, peasants in the province have sold more than 1,200 metric tons of their surplus rice to the state, surpassing

their target by 74 percent. The peasants in the districts of Siem Bok and Siem Pang took the lead by selling respectively 450 and 256 metric tons. For the 1986-87 harvest, the peasants plan to sell 1,550 metric tons of rice to the state.

Svay Rieng Province: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1108 GMT on 1 December reports that by the end of October this year, peasants in Kompong Rou District had harvested IR-36 rice on 258 hectares and short-term rice on 554 others. The peasants in the said district have so far reclaimed 1,500 hectares of land, including 1,000 hectares of fertile soil. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 7 December reports that during the 1986 monsoon, peasants in Chantrea District transplanted nearly 16,470 hectares of various types of rice out of the 16,640 hectares earmarked for the season's cropping. They also reclaimed more than 1,900 hectares of land and planted more than 100 hectares of subsidiary food crops.

/9738

CSO: 4212/12

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

INDIAN PRESIDENT ASSURES SUPPORT--Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the PRK Council of State, recently received a message from His Excellency Zail Singh, president of the Republic of India. The message said: I would like to express my salutation in response to Your Excellency's message dated 15 August 1986 and to thank you for giving me detailed information about the situation in Cambodia. I unswervingly support the right of the fraternal Cambodian people and government to live in peace without fear of outside interferences. I firmly believe that the terror experienced by the Cambodian people in the past will never occur again. Therefore, the Cambodian people will be able to strive for the restoration and reconstruction of their nation. Please, Excellency, accept my highest regards. Permit me to express once again my thanks for your noble sentiments. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Dec 86 BK] /9738

160 MISLED PERSONS RETURN--In a period of three weeks ending mid-November, 160 misled persons returned to the fold in groups, bringing 45 assorted weapons and some war materiel. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 1 Dec 86 BK] /9738

CSO: 4212/12

PAPER ON U.S. 'HOSTILE' ACTS AGAINST AFGHANISTAN

OW080905 Hanoi VNA in English 0658 GMT 8 Dec 86

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi, 8 Dec (VNA)--The army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has come out strongly against the United States, the reactionary forces in Pakistan and elsewhere for their intensified hostile activities against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

In a commentary today, the paper says: "While the Soviet Union and Afghanistan are making every effort to stabilize the situation in southwest Asia and stepping up the trend toward peace and friendship in the region, the United States, Pakistan and other reactionary forces are trying to distort realities in Afghanistan while constantly intensifying their hostile acts against the country.

"But, whatever they may do, the imperialists and their followers cannot check the firm advance of the Afghan revolution", the paper stresses, and continues:

"The enemy have already failed in their acts of sabotage, armed provocations and subversion against Afghanistan. Many hideouts of the bandits have been discovered, ring-leaders captured and subversive acts foiled. The Afghan people are firmly pushing forward national construction and defense.

At present, Afghanistan and Pakistan are holding talks to seek a political solution to their disputes and ease tension in their relations. Soviet troops have entered Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government.

Part of them has been withdrawn from Afghanistan and by agreement between the two countries, another withdrawal will take place if the threat of aggression has been removed."

The paper says in conclusion: "If the United States, Pakistan and their associates do not draw the necessary lessons from their failures but, instead, intensify their hostile acts against the Afghan revolution, they cannot avoid still more bitter failures."

/9738

CSO: 4200/203

U.S. 'WAR ESCALATION' AGAINST NICARAGUA CONDEMNED

BK101657 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 10 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Dec (VNA)--A spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry today strongly condemned the U.S. bombing of Winilli and other areas in northern Nicaragua on 7 December, which caused heavy losses in material and lives to the local population.

In a statement issued here today, the spokesman demanded that the U.S. Government put an immediate and unconditional stop to all its hostile acts against Nicaragua and respond to the latter's goodwill by entering into negotiation to peacefully solve problems in the region.

The statement notes that the bombing took place at a time when thousands of U.S. troops, supported by tanks and warplanes, were engaged in a "joint military maneuver" on Honduran territory close to the Nicaragua border, and when the U.S. Government was slanderously charging that Nicaraguan troops had penetrated into Honduran territory.

This, the statement points out, is a new and serious move of escalation of the U.S. against the Republic of Nicaragua, causing a very tense situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

Undertaken at a time when the whole world is condemning the U.S. Government's diversion of its profits from its secret arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan contras, this act of war escalation further proves that the Reagan Administration is stubbornly pursuing its policy of interference and aggression against Nicaragua despite the protest of the American and world people, the statement adds.

It stresses: "This is another arrogant challenge against the people of Nicaragua, other Latin American countries, the countries in the Non-Aligned Movement, against the justice-and-peace-loving forces all over the world, and grossly trampled upon international law and the UN Charter."

"The Vietnamese people once again affirm their full and strong support for the just struggle of the fraternal Nicaraguan people aimed at defending and building a new Nicaragua. They are firmly confident that all the hostile schemes and acts of aggression of the U.S. imperialists will be defeated by the heroic Nicaraguan people," the statement concludes.

VNA REVIEWS COOPERATION WITH SOVIET UNION

OW041640 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 4 Dec 86

["In honor of Sixth Party Congress Vietnamese-Soviet friendship emulation movement gains momentum"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 4 Dec (VNA)--The Vietnamese-Soviet friendship emulation movement which began in 1958 with the establishment of brotherly relations between corresponding factories and services or between two localities has seen a new development this year when the two fraternal parties hold their 27th and 6th congresses respectively.

This movement is based on the commitment by each side to best implement its technological and economic programs with a view to higher quality and efficiency in production and construction.

In Vietnam, since early this year more than 100 production establishments, construction sites and research institutions, in particular the key projects built with Soviet assistance, have been engaged in this emulation movement. More than 10,000 "emulation contracts" have been signed between brigades of Vietnamese workers and groups of Soviet experts. At the construction site of the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power plant 1,588 such contracts have been signed under which Vietnamese and Soviet workers pledged to accomplish well and on schedule 15 important installations including the two discharge tunnels. At the Pha Lai thermal power plant, east of Hanoi, the fourth and last generator group of the plant on 29 November began generating power into the national grids. At the Tri An hydroelectric power project, northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, Soviet experts and Vietnamese workers are actively preparing for the damming of the Dong Nai River scheduled for early 1987. At the Vung Tau-con Dao special sector, the third oil rig was assembled and put into commission two months ahead of schedule, while the assembly of the fourth is under way...

At many other economic projects such as the ports of Hai Phong, Danang and Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), the Dau Tieng rubber plantation, the new Hanoi railway system... the Vietnamese-Soviet friendship emulation movement has gained great momentum as the 6th Congress of the CPV is drawing near.

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CS0: 4200/203

VNA OUTLINES HANOI-VIENTIANE COOPERATION SUCCESSES

BK111659 Hanoi VNA in English 1447 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 11--Any visitor to Vientiane from Hanoi could easily notice the effects of the cooperation between the sister capital cities of the two countries.

The Vientiane brick and roof-tile factory, biggest of its kind in Laos, plays a major role in relieving the city of its chronic acute shortage of building materials. Each year, this 45 million "kip" (Lao currency) factory can produce 5 million bricks and 2 million rooftiles. Hanoi contributed 26 million kip to its construction.

An importer of sugar not long ago, Vientiane now can supply its population with sugar produced from its own sugar-cane plantations. Its two sugar mills, built with Hanoi's 5 million-kip investment, on its outlying districts of Saithani and Hat Saifong have each a capacity of five tons of sugar-cane a day.

Pneumatic hammers supplied by Hanoi are now fully operative at the Vientiane farm tool plant.

Prior to the recent 4th Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, Hanoi helped install in Vientiane a 4500-ton-a-year paper mill which can produce thin paper. Mills of floor tiles and medicinal alcohols inaugurated in the Lao capital early this year were fruits of Hanoi's assistance on the same occasion.

The cooperation between the two cities also embraces technical research. Hanoi has sent many engineers and technical cadres to Vientiane to help the city in its production of ceramic ware and liquors and the maintenance and repair of machine tools.

Cooperation in agricultural production includes Hanoi's provision of rice strains and popularisation of the technology of intensive farming to Vientiane. Hanoi also assists the Lao capital in beautifying the city.

Personnel training is another focus of the two cities' cooperation. In recent years, Hanoi has trained for Vientiane 120 economic managers and engineering workers. Meanwhile, it has also given refresher courses to dozens of Lao technicians. Thirty Vientiane mass mobilisation workers are trained in Hanoi.

The two capital cities also exchange delegation of various kinds each year to enhance their mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation.

7051

CSO: 4200/217

NHAN DAN MARKS UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION

OW100749 Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 10 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Dec (VNA)--Marking the 30th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights, NHAN DAN today says that it was a milestone, recording the gains of the successful struggle of nations against fascism, for national independence, peace, democracy and social progress during and after World War II.

The paper says: "The United States has always styled itself the defender of human rights and conducted noisy campaigns about 'human rights'. As public opinion in many countries has pointed out, this is aimed only at covering its violation of 'human rights' of the American people and using it as political pressure and an excuse to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, cause tension in the world, sabotage detente and prosecute its global 'anti-communist' foreign policy."

The paper goes on: "The noble objective of the communist parties in the socialist countries has always been to liberate mankind from oppression and exploitation and to build a new life in which the working people are the masters, and in which everything does is for the people's happiness. The strategy on human well-being put forth at the 27th congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and at the congresses of other fraternal parties amply demonstrates the humane character of socialism. The Communist Party of Vietnam, in its recent resolutions, has made it clear that the people are the foundation and the people's happiness is the highest criterion of the party's work. Having shed so much blood and persistently struggled for decades against imperialist aggressors, the Vietnamese people understand very well that the most sacred human right is to live in independence and freedom. This fundamental right is written in Vietnam's constitution and has been implemented step by step."

The paper further says that on this occasion the United Nations has also decided to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the covenant on economic, social and cultural rights and the covenant on civil and cultural rights.

"Together with the universal declaration of human rights, this is an important part of the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress on our planet, the paper says in conclusion.

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CSO: 4200/203

EXPORTS UP SIGNIFICANTLY OVER LAST FIVE YEARS

OW122008 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 12--The volume of export shows a steady upward trend at the Third Exhibition-Fair on Economic and Technical Achievements currently held in Hanoi.

Compared with 1980, the export of farm products in 1985 rose by 148.4 percent, forest products by 170.8 percent, aquatic products by 608 percent, consumer goods and small industry and handicrafts by 42.6 percent, mineral and building material industries by 77 percent....

The value of goods exchanged between Vietnam and the other member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, especially with the Soviet Union, in the past five years rose by 92 percent compared with the 1976-80 period.

Most of the products are made of locally available materials such as jute, rush, mulberry, oil-bearing plants from Thai Binh Province, timber and resin from Lam Dong, larite from Ha Bac Province, cashew from Quang Nam-Danang, Nghia Binh and Thuan Hai provinces, and potato from Ha Nam Ninh Province. A number of army units also engaged in the production of export articles. The consumer goods exported to the CMEA member countries include shoes, slippers, woolen carpets, clothes, bicycle tires.

Vietnam's cooperation with the CMEA in the production of industrial crops has also been enhanced noticeably, rubber by 150 percent, tea by 160 percent and coffee by 350 percent.

The exhibition also shows a steady development of economic cooperation between Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries. Last year, Vietnam's export lines to Laos and Kampuchea were broadened to include also farming machines, household utensils, building materials, knitwear, automobile tires, timber, and cigarettes.

7051

CSO: 4200/217

HO CHI MINH CITY COOPERATES TO BUILD INDUSTRY

OW110807 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 11 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 11--Ho Chi Minh City's small industrial and handicraft branch has cooperated with the two capitals of Laos and Kampuchea in building and installing a number of industrial establishments.

Ho Chi Minh City has manufactured equipment and installed a rolling mill with a capacity of 600 tons a year and two chemical workshops for Vientiane. It also helped in training of 18 Lao technical workers.

Besides, the engineering cooperative "September 2" of the city has joined the industrial branch of Phnom Penh in building a shipyard. Its first 100-ton barge has been launched safely.

The small industrial and handicraft branch of Ho Chi Minh City is undertaking more new projects within the framework of the city's economic cooperation programme with the two capital cities of Laos and Kampuchea.

7051

CSO: 4200/217

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

BRIEFS

LAO BOOK EXHIBIT--Hanoi, 2 Dec (VNA)--An exhibition on Lao books was opened here today in honor of the 11th National Day of Laos (2 Dec). Present at the opening ceremony were Vice Minister of Culture Le Thanh Cong and Lao Councilor Khamphong Manivong [spelling of name as received]. On show are about 500 titles featuring the Lao people and land, the remarkable achievements recorded by the Lao people over the past decade and the fine development of the militant solidarity and all round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1552 GMT 2 Dec 86 OW] /9738

NEW GDR AMBASSADOR--Hanoi, 5 Dec (VNA)--The ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to Vietnam, Joachim Joschner, today paid a courtesy visit to Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 5 Dec 86 OW] /9738

U.S. 'HOSTILE ACTS' IN NICARAGUA--Hanoi, 10 Dec (VNA)--"By allowing the Honduran Army to launch air raids in the northern part of Nicaragua and taking a series of other hostile acts recently against Nicaragua the United States has revealed its intention to mount an actual war of aggression against Nicaragua," says the national daily NHAN DAN in a commentary today. "These acts", the paper notes, "have shown that the U.S. and nobody else is responsible for the increasing tension in Latin America and the Caribbean region. The air raids on Nicaragua were also intended to divert public opinion in the U.S. and at large about the Reagan Administration's secret arms sale to Iran to finance the contras and the reactionary forces in Angola and Afghanistan." NHAN DAN goes on: "The world public is growing aware that the root cause of the regional conflicts is first of all the U.S. imperialists' reactionary policy which goes against the sacred rights of all nations. The development of the current situation is fraught with unpredictable consequences. In face of the hypocritical attitude of the reason to fear the danger of a 'second Vietnam' in Nicaragua," the paper says in conclusion. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT 10 Dec 86 OW] /9738

AFRICAN PARTY HEAD CONGRATULATED--Hanoi, 1 Dec (VNA)--Truong Chinh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, has sent congratulations to Joao Bernardo Vieira on his re-election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the African Party for Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape-Verde (PAIGC). The Vietnamese leader wished Joao Bernardo Vieira many successes in his responsible post. He also wished for further

consolidation and development of the solidarity and friendship between the two parties and peoples. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0830 GMT 2 Dec 86 OW] /9738

CEMA STANDARDIZATION COMMITTEE MEETING--Hanoi, 2 Dec (VNA)--The 61st Conference of the Standardization Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) opened this morning in Ho Chi Minh City. Participating in the conference are delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic, and representatives of the standardization department of the CMEA secretariat and international economic organizations. The Vietnamese delegation is led by Doan Phuong, head of the Vietnam General Department for Quality Standardization. The 6-day conference will review activities of the committee in 1986, map out the standardization work for the years to come and decide CMEA standards for 1987. Information about the application of [word indistinct] and technical assistance among CMEA member countries will also be discussed at the conference. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1556 GMT 2 Dec 86 OW] /9738

ALBANIAN NATIONAL DAY--Hanoi, 3 Dec (VNA)--A meeting was held in Hue City on 2 December to mark the 42nd national day of Albania. The meeting was attended by, among others, Nguyen Van Luong, deputy secretary of the party organization and chairman of the People's Committee of Binh Tri Thien Province, and Syrja Laze, Albanian ambassador to Vietnam. Speaking at the meeting, Nguyen Dinh Ngo, vice chairman of the People's Committee of the province, praised the great achievements recorded by the Albanian people in building socialism. The Albanian ambassador highly valued the Vietnamese people's efforts in national construction and defense, and their contributions to strengthening the socialist community. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 3 Dec 86 OW] /9738

ENVOY TO BURKINA FASO--Hanoi VNA Dec 4--President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso has said that Vietnam is a symbol of heroism, courage and victory of the people who are struggling for national independence and freedom. His remarks came during his acceptance of Vietnamese Ambassador Vu Toan's credentials on November 28. The Burkina Faso president also highly praised the Vietnamese people's big contributions to the struggle against Imperialism, Colonialism and Neo-colonialism. Ambassador Vu Toan was also received by other senior officials of Burkina Faso including the general secretary of the National Union for the Defense of Democracy, P. Ouedraogo, who expressed their hope for constant development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 4 Dec 86 OW] /7051

FINNISH AMBASSADOR GIVES RECEPTION--Hanoi VNA Dec 6 -- Finnish Ambassador to Vietnam Euro Saarikoski gave a reception here today in honour of the 69th independence day of the Republic of Finland. His guests included Tran Guynh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Nguyen Di Nien, assistant to the foreign minister. At the reception, Ambassador Euro Saarikoski and Vice Chairman Tran Guynh raised toasts for further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Finland and Vietnam. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 6 Dec 86 OW] /7051

COOPERATION WITH CUBA PLANNED--Hanoi VNA Dec 11--A plan for cooperation in culture and education for the 1986-90 period was signed in Havana on December 10. Signatories were Hoang Luong, Vietnamese ambassador to Cuba, and Giraldo Mazola Collazo, Cuban vice-minister for foreign affairs. Speaking after the signing, both Hoang Luong and Mazola Collazo expressed satisfaction at the development of the cooperative ties in culture and education between the two countries. [Text] [Hanoi VNA English 1458 GMT 11 Dec 86 BK] /7051

DONG RECEIVES OUTGOING CSSR ENVOY--Hanoi VNA December 14--Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong has received Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl who paid him a farewell visit before returning home for a new assignment. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT 14 Dec 86 BK] /7051

THO RECEIVES OUTGOING CSSR ENVOY--Hanoi VNA Dec 12--Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl has made a farewell call on Chairman of the National Assembly Nguyen Huu Tho before leaving here for a new assignment. Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho had a cordial talk with the Czechoslovak diplomat. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 12 Dec 86 OW] /7051

CSO: 4200/217

ECONOMIC, PRODUCTION ACHIEVEMENTS CITED

OW090909 Hanoi VNA in English 0657 GMT 9 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Dec (VNA)--Over the past five years (1981-1985) the industrial sector of Vietnam has recorded annual increase of 9.5 percent compared with 0.6 percent of the previous five-year period (1976-1980).

On the southern continental shelf, the joint Vietnam-USSR petroleum venture has put into operation the third oil rig and will soon complete the installation of the fourth. Two more cement plants were set up at Bim Son and Hoang Ghach, each with a yearly capacity of 1.2 million tons.

The 1920 mw Hoa Binh and the 420 mw Tri An hydro-electric power plants are under construction while the 440 mw Pha Lai thermal power plant has put its fourth and last generator group into operation. In addition, more than 200 smaller hydro-electric power stations of the 25,000 kw category have been erected.

The coal industry has begun tapping several new mines and installed new coal sorting facilities.

The engineering and metal industries have increased the value of their products in service of agriculture from 27 percent in 1981-82 to 37 percent in 1985-86. The value of consumer goods makes up 6 percent and exports 5.7 percent of the total value of the engineering industry.

the chemical industry has completed enlargement of the Lam Thao superphosphate fertilizer plant and an apatite-enriching plant at Lao Cai and made substantial investments to quickly increase the production and quality of fertilizers.

The geological service has stepped up the survey and exploitation of minerals, making important contributions to the evaluation of the mineral resources of the country, helping in economic zoning and to work out the strategy for overall socio-economic development.

The light and food industries have made new progress, especially the textile, cloth-making, procelain and glassware industries which have overcome shortages of raw materials, equipment and spare parts to increase productivity and the quality of products.

The food industry, in particular, has expanded the material supply and processing facilities, combining industry and agriculture more and more effectively. Compared with 1980, the production of sugar, cigarettes, canned food, milk, beer and wine has increased markedly.

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CSO: 4200/203

HAU GIANG FOOD PRODUCTION UP OVER 5 YEARS

OW130747 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 13 Dec 86

["In Honour of the Sixth Party Congress Food Production in Hau Giang Province"--headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 13--Thanks to intensive farming and crop multiplication, the Mekong River Delta Province of Hau Giang last year produced 1,518,000 tons of starch food, 481,000 tons more than in 1980.

Alongside the construction of irrigation projects, mostly small-size works aimed at transforming alkaline and aluminous soil to turn single-cropping areas into double-cropping fields, the province has paid much attention to the selection of high-yield rice varieties resistant to plant diseases, and the restructuring of food crops.

Such new and hybridized rice strains as 7a, ir 13240, ba thiet, trang tep and trang phuoc have been grown in large areas. Hau Giang has so far trained almost 8,000 technicians for local agricultural cooperatives and production collectives.

Efforts have been made to increase the draught power. At present, almost 60 percent of the province's cultivated land are ploughed by tractors. Its herd of cattle has risen from 50,400 in 1981 to 60,000 in 1985.

The areas planted with new high-yield rice varieties last year covered 121,578 hectares, making up 56.38 percent of Hau Giang's gross food output. Its per-hectare yield of winter rice rose from 2.2 tons in 1981 to 2.7 tons in 1985 and its winter rice output from 766,000 tons in 1981 to 839,300 tons in 1985.

The province's annual per-capita food production last year was 616 kg as against 481 kg in 1980. Besides supplying enough food for a population of 2.5 million, last year Hau Giang delivered more than 400,000 tons of surplus grain to the state. The rapid growth of food production has enabled the province to speed up its socio-economic development program in the years ahead.

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CSO: 4200/217

SMALL INDUSTRIES, HANDICRAFTS ADD TO GROWTH

OW120831 Hanoi VNA in English 0802 GMT 12 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 12--Small industries and handicrafts in Vietnam have over the past five years made important contributions to the growth of the national economy.

In 1985, their output value made up 45 percent of the industrial output value, 70 percent of that of the local industries and nearly 20 percent of the value of exports.

The growth rate in 1985 increased by 112.4 percent over 1980.

In 1985, the small industries and handicrafts employed more than 1.8 million people up by 200,000 over 1980. Of this number, about three fourths worked in over 5,600 cooperatives and nearly 9,000 production groups, a lower level of cooperation.

This does not include a large number of handicraft workers at agricultural cooperatives and some 70,000 others working in the private sector.

At present, more than 30,000 different kinds of products in service of production, life and export are produced by the small industry and handicrafts service. Many products have received first-grade rating by the state quality-control service and have been awarded gold or silver medals at exhibition-fairs at home or abroad.

The service has also constantly expanded its trading and cooperative ties with many foreign small industry and handicraft organizations, especially in the other socialist countries.

In addition, the branch has helped Laos and Kampuchea develop their small industries and handicrafts through the supply of equipment, materials, experts and personnel training.

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CSO: 4200/217

VNA LAUDS FIVE YEARS OF SRV AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

OW100825 Hanoi VNA in English 0756 GMT 10 Dec 86

["Five years of agricultural development"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Dec (VNA)--Over the past five years (1981-85) considerable progress in all respects has been recorded in agricultural production in Vietnam.

Rice output rose from 11,357 million tons in 1980 to 16.18 million tons in 1985 or an annual increase of 6.7 percent. Per hectare rice productivity was 2.58 tons per crop, up by 0.56 ton compared with the previous five-year period.

The output of subsidiary foods (in rice equivalent) in 1985 was 2.3 million tons, 12.5 percent of the total food output. As a result, the national per capita food production rose to 309 kilos in 1985 from 268 kilos in 1980.

In 1985, 1,068 million hectares were grown with industrial crops, up by 70.1 percent over 1980. Of which, 450,000 hectares were covered with perennial trees such as coffee, rubber and tea, and 618,000 with short-term plants, (soybean, groundnut, tobacco, etc). The latter represents a 60.2 percent increase over 1980.

An even more comprehensive program was made in livestock-breeding. In 1985, the number of pigs was 12.6 million head, up by 26 percent over 1980, cross-bred pigs accounted for 37 percent, which raised the average weight of marketed pigs from 47 kilos in 1980 to 62 kilos in 1985, and meat output to 580,000 tons, double that in the previous five-year period. The number of cows, buffaloes and poultry stood respectively at 2.6, 2.58 and 100 million, which represent annual increases of 2.2-9.8 percent.

In the 1981-85 period, 48 major irrigation projects and hundreds of smaller ones were commissioned, expanding the irrigated acreage to 4,379,000 hectares, 624,000 ha larger than that in 1981.

The aquatic products service (which is still listed as a branch of agriculture) netted more than 3.5 million tons of products, a 5-percent increase over the previous five years. The value of export of this branch increased by 3.76 times over the previous corresponding period.

The area for fishing rearing went up from 42,000 ha in 1981 to 51,000 ha in 1985 and that for shrimp rearing from 30,000 ha to 75,000 ha.

In the past five years, more than 7 million cubic meters of timber were felled, representing 88 percent of the five-year target set by the Fifth Party Congress. In the same period, the forestry service afforested more than 460,000 ha and planted 1,640 million timber, fruit or shade trees in scattered places.

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CSO: 4200/203

TROPICAL CLIMATE, VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCES VIEWED

OWO41429 Hanoi VNA in English 0704 GMT 4 Dec 86

["In honor of the upcoming Sixth Party Congress Vietnam: Land and People"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 4 Dec (VNA)--The socialist Republic of Vietnam lies in the eastern part of the Indochinese peninsula and on the south-eastern fringe of the Asian continent. The tropical climate creates for Vietnam favorable conditions and valuable natural resources.

The fertility of the soil and the high degree of humidity make plants an vegetation green all the year round. According to statistics gathered in 1978, Vietnam's mainland has 35,168,000 hectares, 30 percent of which are used for agricultural production, nearly 60 percent for forestry and about two percent consist of rivers and streams.

Vietnam develops crop farming in large deltas such as the Hong (red) and Thai Binh river deltas in the north, the central plains stretching from Thanh Hoa Province to south central provinces, the Mekong river delta in the south, which include the provinces of Tien Giang and Hau Giang and the plain of reeds.

More than 50 percent of the mainland are covered by alluvial soil very suitable for wet-rice cultivation. The red soil of the central highlands and the northern provinces of the Mekong river delta, with a high proportion of humus, is favorable to the growing of perennial industrial crops.

Vietnam has many scenic spots such as the Ha Long bay, the Nha Trang seaside resort, the Hai Van pass, Phu Quoc and Con Dao islands, and the Sa Pa, Tam Dao and Dlat hill resorts.

Vietnam's forests abound in precious timber trees such as dinh (markhamia stipulate seem), lim (erythrophlaeum fordii oliv), sen (bassia pasquieri h. lec) and tau (vatica tonkinensis pitard), and other products of high economic value. Primeval forests such as Cuc Phuong in former Ninh Binh Province and Cat Tien in the south are valuable in terms of economy and scientific research. Timber forests in Vietnam account for 39 percent of the natural areas: 0.8 percent of them are covered with precious timber trees, 0.4 percent with cajuput trees, 0.4 percent with mangrove trees and 4.4 percent with bamboo trees.

Vietnam has about 3,260 km of seacoast with many precious aquatic products such as turtles, pearls and corals, and many fishing grounds and ports like Hai Phong, Da Nang, Cam Ranh and Vung Tau.

Vietnam's subsoil contains a wide range of mineral ores: chromite, apatite, iron, zinc, lead, tin, etc. Oil has just been struck and extracted on the southern continental shelf.

Up to 1985, Vietnam had a population of 59.9 million with a density of 174 inhabitants per square kilometer.

More than 11 million Vietnamese are living in the cities. Hanoi, the capital, inhabited by nearly three million people, is the political, economic and cultural center of the whole country. Ho Chi Minh City has the largest population in the country: 3.6 million. Nearly 60 ethnic minorities are living in Vietnam in equality and solidarity.

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CSO: 4200/203

HIGHWAY BUILT BETWEEN HO CHI MINH CITY, MOC HOA

OW110805 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 22 Dec 86

["In Honour of the Upcoming Sixth Party Congress First Motor Road in Plain of Reeds"-- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 11---Dong Thap Muoi highway, is the name given to the first motor road built on the marshy land of Dong Thap Muoi, known as the plain of reeds, which covers hundreds of thousands of hectares in Southern Vietnam.

It is only a laterite road hardly negotiable for two trucks. But the most striking fact about it is that this "highway" crosses a vast marshy area notorious for its bogs. According to foreign experts on hydraulic works, construction of such a road would cost millions of US dollars and require a lot of technical facilities.

This marshy land is dotted with water lily plants which give pink and purple flowers all the year round, and abounds in "cum num", (a kind of wild chicken).

Travellers who happened to be so attracted by the beautiful water-lilies or by "cua num" chickens--whose flesh makes a delicious dish--as to wade in the roadside mud would sink into the deep bogs.

No wonder that under the US domination, the motor road from Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) to Moc Hoa (in the northwestern part of the plain of reeds) had to wind southwest and then turn northeast before reaching that township.

The "Dong Thap Muoi Highway" now runs straight from Ho Chi Minh City to Moc Hoa across a marshy land with many bogs. Learning from experiences of local inhabitants, road-builders had planted cajuput stakes in the marsh as props for the road-beds. After five years the road has stood firm.

The road was built under a program for tapping the plain of reeds, irrigation canals were dug, dividing the marshy land into tracts of varying sizes and draining the alkaline water. On the lower tracts of land, cajuput trees were planted to absorb the alkali. On the higher tracts, local inhabitants have applied the rotation of crops: pineapple, sugar cane, and cassava. On some areas watered by irrigation canals, wet rice is expected to be planted.

On either side of the "Dong Thap Muoi Highway", we saw pineapple, sugarcane and bean growing lush in the fields.

Ba Cam, deputy secretary of the party committee and vicechairman of the People's Committee of Moc Hoa District, showed us around the district. Looking at the submerged fields of the plain of reeds which lay as far as the eyes could see, he told us:

"During the wars against the French and then the Americans, many revolutionary cadres died because of the hard life in the marshy fields which abound in mosquitoes and leeches. Moreover, you may easily lose your way there or get drowned in a bog".

"The Dong Thap Muoi Highway is a symbol of the determination to conquer a vast marshy land and tap it for the nation's prosperity.

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CSO: 4200/217

BRIEFS

DIGITAL TECHNIQUES COURSE--Hanoi, 2 Dec (VNA)--A course on digital techniques in audio-visual production and broadcast was opened yesterday morning in Ho Chi Minh City. It was cosponsored by the Vietnam Radio and TV Technology Research Institute, the Asian Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) and the Institute of National Audio-visual of France (INA). The three-week course, the third of its kind held so far with AIBD and INA assistance, is attended by 25 tv workers from various provinces in the country. Present at the opening ceremony were Dang Trung Hieu, director of the Vietnamese Research Institute, and Jean Paul Dumont, French consul general in Ho Chi Minh City. The main lecturer is Jean Noel Gouyet from the INA. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1540 GMT 2 Dec 86 OW] /9738

HANOI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT INSTALLATIONS--Hanoi, 4 Dec (VNA)--After seven months of construction, a new terminal has been completed at the Hanoi International Airport exclusively for international flights. The project designed by the General Department of Civil Aviation covers 4,000 square meters. It mainly consists of a 1-story, 5-lounge building covering 651 square meters. Workers of the department have also widened and upgraded the highway leading to the new terminal in honor of the foreign guests to the Sixth Party Congress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 4 Dec 86 OW] /9738

LIGHT INDUSTRIES' LOCAL MATERIALS--Hanoi, 4 Dec (VNA)--Since 1981, about 10,000 tons of machinery spare parts, made of locally available materials such as leather, rubber, plastic and wood, have been produced to meet 70 percent of the basic demands of the production establishments under the Ministry of Light Industry. In addition, some 1,500 pieces of equipment have been made such as automatic weaving machines, paper pulpers and papermaking machines with a capacity of 150 tons a year. Thanks to the substitution in material supplies the textile industry has increased its productivity by 10 percent. Textile output in 1985 rose 120 percent over 1980 and paper output by 64.2 percent. Export value of consumer goods went up 14.1 percent in the same period. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 4 Dec 86 OW] /9738

CSO: 4200/203

MORE JOB TRAINING CENTERS AT DISTRICT LEVEL

OW051031 Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 5 Dec (VNA)--Each year, the workforce in Vietnam is increased by about one million persons, 800,000 of them students from various general education schools who either are drop-outs or do not possess any professional qualifications.

To solve this problem, in the past five years, many provinces and cities have set up their own apprentice centers which now number 246 in the whole country.

At the district level, in the first years, these centers in most cases opened very short-term courses (from three days to one month) attended mostly by responsible cadres of local agricultural co-ops. This is followed by job training in the full sense of the word. The students are taught a variety of trades, traditional as well as modern, always on the principle of closely associating study with productive work. These centers assign to themselves the task of popularizing scientific and technological knowledge and its application to production. Upon their return to their co-ops, the new agricultural workers thus trained can effectively participate in the fight against epiphytic and epizootic diseases, in the selection of suitable rice strains for the local soil.

On the basis of the district's overall socio-economic planning, the apprentice centers closely cooperate with various services in the district to work out their adequate training plan for each period. Besides, they help the local general education schools in the training of teachers in vocational guidance. The latter, in their turn, practically play a role as advisers for students in the choice of their future jobs and effectively prepare the students for a working life.

To be really effective, the apprentice centers base themselves on the socio-economic programs of the localities as well as on the available raw materials and the right in working out the teaching programs and deciding what trades and crafts to teach. Only a few courses are given at the school itself, the rest being opened at the production establishments, cooperatives, villages and even in the families. Such courses, lasting from a week to a year or so, open their doors to everyone without distinction of age or educational standard. The teaching staff mostly consists of appointed or contractual teachers.

NHAN DAN CARRIES ARTICLE ON HANOI COLLEGE

OW051734 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 5 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi, 5 Dec (VNA)--Since its founding in 1956, the Hanoi College of Agriculture No. 1 (formerly the College of Agriculture and Forestry) has trained almost 17,000 graduates in agricultural economy, accounting for 80 percent of the national total, according to its director, Professor Tran Thi Nhi Huong.

In an article appearing in NHAN DAN today to mark the college's 30th anniversary, she wrote: The graduates were assigned to all parts of the country to serve as the key force in the scientific-technological revolution in agriculture. Many are holding responsible positions in agricultural management, production, science and technology or playing leading roles at the grassroots and central services and institutes.

Since 1976, the college has opened in-service training courses for cadres of the collective economic sector in many provinces, particularly in the red river delta.

After the liberation of the south in 1975, teachers and student broadened their scope of activity, taking part in the survey of natural resources and in district building in the south.

Since the 1977-78 academic year, the college began training post-graduates. The number of its teachers with post-graduate degrees has increased by 2.6 percent in the past ten years.

The college has received enormous assistance from the Soviet Union in equipment for all its thirty-five sections. Other countries have also given it substantial help: Cuba (training) and computerization; Czechoslovakia in the research on [word indistinct] plants; France in the cultivation of vegetable tissue and virology; the Netherlands in entomology, etc.

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CSO: 4200/203

NATIONAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT HONORS PARTY

OW100735 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 10 Dec 86

["In honor of upcoming Sixth Party Congress development of cultural and art heritage in Vietnam"--VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Dec (VNA)--Developing the national cultural and art heritage is part of the over-all efforts of the Vietnamese people to build a socialist culture.

This work is of utmost importance since it gives a Vietnamese character to the new socialist culture and helps the country contribute more to the world's cultural legacy.

The most recent cultural heritage of Vietnam is a merger of two cultural streams, off-springs of a semi-feudal and colonial society. One was the working people's culture made ideology of the ruling feudal class and the colonialist occupants. The other was the culture of the ruling class, which by nature was reactionary. The latter, however, contained manifestations of patriotism, and thus has certain progressive elements of the former. It is therefore very difficult to fit our cultural heritage into the socialist culture we are building.

As part of Vietnam's modern culture, the socialist life-style is a harmonious combination of the socialist ideology and the finest customs and traditions of the nation. Efforts have been made to analyze the languages and forms of traditional arts, the methods and measures to create them and the similarities and differences between them and modern arts.

Art itself embodies the "soul" of a nation--the result of the interaction between content and form. Such a relationship generates an invisible but irresistible attraction. Through a correct inheritance of that "soul", Vietnam is ensuring the continual development of its traditional arts.

Reality has shown not a few examples of crude amalgams of traditional and modern arts. The audiences' indifference to them is due less to their poor knowledge of modern arts than to the fact that the amalgamation lacks the necessary sense of beauty, propriety and excellence in art.

There is another fact: while purely folkloric music has little appeal to young audiences, many songs composed on modernized folk tunes have proved to be "big hits". Their audiences even include people of older generations. It is therefore imperative for us to further modernize our cultural legacy while helping the audiences widen and deepen their knowledge of both traditional and modern arts.

The development of the heritage of traditional culture and arts in Vietnam is being done in the light of international cultural relations and the development of modern science and technology.

The absorption of world cultural values and experience is being done along the line of developing and diversifying our traditional culture, helping it keep pace with our times.

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CSO: 4200/203

BRIEFS

SYMPOSIUM ON BIOCHEMISTRY HELD--Hanoi, 3 Dec (VNA)--A symposium of biochemistry in service of development and life was jointly sponsored here on 2-3 December by the State Commission for Sciences and Technology and the Union of Scientific and Technical Associations. The symposium, the first of its kind so far in the country, was attended by nearly 500 researchers, lecturers and technicians in biochemistry throughout the country. They reviewed the achievements recorded in this field in different branches, universities, institutes and production establishments, and worked out orientations for their work in the coming years. About one hundred papers on basic biochemistry, biochemistry in agriculture, forestry, fishery, food industry, light industry and pharmaceutical industry were delivered at the symposium. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 3 Dec 86 OW] /9738

DISCUSSION ON TRUONG CHINH'S BOOK--Discussion on party General Secretary Truong Chinh's book entitled "On Culture and Art" was arranged in Hanoi recently jointly by the Literature Publishing House and the National Library. This 800-page book has just come off the press in honor of the upcoming Sixth Party Congress. It has two volumes, and it was selected from the party general secretary's speeches and articles written from 1938 to 1984. [Text] [Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Dec 86 BK] /9738

RAIN CAUSES LOSSES--Hanoi, 5 Dec (VNA)--Torrential rains following a tropical depression hit central Vietnam provinces in the early hours of 3 December, causing considerable losses to the local people. The rainfall record was 500 mm in Quang Nam-danang and 400 mm in Phu Khanh. All rivers in the provinces from Quang Nam-danang to Thuan Hai swelled to a level never before seen in history, causing inundation in many areas, including 32,000 hectares of ricefields. Some places in Quang Ngai Town were from two to three meters under water. The flood killed three people in Thanh My district. Many sections of dykes roads and railways were damaged. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 5 Dec 86 OW] /9738

WORKSHOP ON WATER SUPPLY--Hanoi VNA December 4--A short-term workshop on drinking water supply and environmental hygiene was held in Hanoi recently. The course, sponsored by the National Committee for Drinking Water and Environmental Hygiene and funded by UNICEF, was attended by developmental officials from many localities in the country including six provinces and cities with critical water supply problems. The participants discussed the planning, repair and operation of water supply programs, data analyses, the technique of well digging and installing hand operated pumps, and other subject matters. The students toured the DA TON cooperative on Hanoi's outskirts, currently a leading unit in the water supply and environmental hygiene movement. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 4 Dec 86 OW] /7051

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